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SALT II SHOULD NOT BE LINKED WITH CUBAN ISSUE

LD291740 Moscow TASS in English 1655 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

["Appeals to Common Sense"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, September 29, TASS--Senate Democratic Majority Leader of U.S. Congress Robert Byrd appealed, on Friday, to his colleagues in the Senate not to succumb to hysterics in connection with the so-called "problem of Soviet troops in Cuba." He stressed that this problem, which he had characterised as a "pseudo-crisis" should not affect ratification by U.S. Senate of the Soviet-American SALT II treaty.

He stressed the lack of any link whatsoever between the SALT II and the Soviet troops in Cuba, adding that attempts are now being made to link the two issues by "some unnatural umbilical cord." The senator called on his colleagues to pause, and to carefully consider the situation in order not to allow the situation to be so distorted as to bring about a destruction of the treaty which accords with the interests of the United States. He added that if the United States attempted to link the SALT II treaty with the presence of Soviet troops in Cuba it could eventually lose on both of these issues.

Byrd spoke after Senator Nancy Kassebaum submitted in the Senate a draft amendment to the SALT II treaty which aims at delaying the treaty's entry into force even in the case of its ratification by the Senate until President Carter is satisfied that the Soviet Union has no "combat potential" in Cuba.

Fifty-two members of the U.S. House of Representatives had called on the Senate on Friday to consider the SALT II treaty on its merits, without "linking" it with the so-called "Cuban issue." In a letter to the Senate Democratic majority leader Robert Byrd, the legislators note that there is no logical connection between the two issues, that their "linkage" is nothing but an attempt to prevent the U.S. Senate from discharging its function to ratify international treaties and thus to defeat the SALT II treaty.

The representative organization called the U.S. Committee for East-West Concord [ACCORD] uniting about 200 prominent political and public figures, representatives of scientific, business circles and trade unions, had described as "a false crisis" the issue of Soviet troops in Cuba which is being strenuously played up by reactionary forces inside the United States.

In a statement issued on Friday, the organization voiced its concern over the fact that despite the well-known fact that the Soviet troops have been in Cuba for already many years now, the hullabaloo raised in certain quarters over the issue may distract the public from real problems which pose a threat to the national security and interests of the United States and jeopardize ratification of the SALT II treaty. The committee appealed to President Jimmy Carter to draw a clear-cut line of distinction between the two issues to focus again the attention of the Congress on the priority problem of establishing control over the nuclear armaments and to prevent ultimatum demands which could further complicate the situation. If we find ourselves prisoners of the emotions of the times of the "cold war" we shall thus reduce to naught the efforts of three presidents and jeopardize the hope for ensuring a genuine security, the statement stresses.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD301730 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program with commentator Gennadiy Ariyevich, APN political observer Spartak Ivanovich Beglov and TASS political observer Yevgeniy Timofeyevich Babenko]

[Text] [Ariyevich] Good morning comrades. To start with I would like to introduce to you the participants in today's roundtable. They are: APN political observer Spartak Ivanovich Beglov and TASS political observer Yevgeniy Timofeyevich Babenko.

UN General Assembly Session

The themes for our discussion today were suggested by the 34th Session of the UN General Assembly which is at present taking place in New York. Perhaps it would not be an exaggeration to say that the peaceful proposals by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have been at the center of attention of its participants. The speech at the session by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko attracted the closest attention. Proceeding from its consistent Leninist foreign policy, the Soviet Union from the lofty platform of the authoritative international organization once again called upon all countries to help strengthen peace and to put an end to the arms race.

The Soviet Union, the USSR Foreign Minister stated, has never abandoned its belief in the fact that a stable edifice of peace can be built. Our people and their leadership proceed from this fact, and the 1970's have clearly confirmed the fact that there are weighty grounds for this.

Indeed, there has not been a single General Assembly session at which our country has not proposed clear and concrete measures for strengthening peace. And this time also, yet another has been added to the many Soviet peaceful initiatives at the United Nations. Comrade Gromyko put forward a proposal to include in the agenda of the session the question on the inadmissibility of hegemonism in international relations. He proposed that the United Nations should condemn attempts by any state or group of states to take up a dominating position in the world or in any of its regions. The topicality of the posing of this question is irrefutable it seems. However, Spartak Ivanovich, perhaps you would like to explain the essence of the new Soviet initiative in greater detail to our listeners, if you please.

[Beglov] First of all, it must be said that in a way it is proper and logical that it was, in fact, our country which came forward with the proposal on the condemnation of hegemonism in world politics. I think that this is justified both from the point of view of the nature of the socialist system and the program of peace which has been put forward and is being implemented in the international arena by our state and also from the historical point of view. For it is in fact the Soviet people who have already paid an excessive price--20 million lives--to tame and destroy the Hitlerite claimants to world mastery. And because of this the essence of the proposals is that it has to become a kind of norm in international relations to consider it inadmissible for any state to aspire to world mastery, or for any state or forces which are predominant in that state to aspire to impose their will on other people; or to interfere in their affairs.

It seems to me that one of the consequences of the realization of such a proposal will be that the international community will gain as it were, a yardstick, a standard, with which it will be possible to measure up the behavior of these or those states in the international arena.

In these conditions it will be all the more difficult to oppose proposals on disarmament, proposals on declaring the principle of nonuse of force or the threat of force in international law, the proposals that the principles of peaceful coexistence become the norm in relations between all states without exception.

It is no secret that many people in the world and the international public at large are worried by the question as to by what right, on the basis of what motives, for example, individual powers consider it permissible for them to deploy nuclear weapons on the territory of dozens of countries in the world, or individual states to declare or consider it to be within their rights to declare that they are ready to teach somebody or some other neighboring state a lesson. All this speaks of the fact that a basic reconstruction in international relations--and this is the idea of the policy of detente--is impossible without hegemonism being excluded from international life.

[Ariyevich] It seems to me that here one must also precisely define what is meant by the very concept of hegemonism. This term is a new one in international relations and it still has not had time even to be included in the encyclopedias and dictionaries. Nevertheless it is being extensively manipulated by the instigators of international conflicts in an attempt to rid themselves of the responsibility for the instigation.

The term, even though it is new, reflects an old phenomenon, namely, the aspiration to mastery over other countries and peoples and the attempt to dictate one's will to them, without taking into account the sovereign will of others. Examples of this in our contemporary world are unfortunately numerous, is it not true, Yevgeniy Timofeyevich?

[Babenko] Yes, of course, there are many examples and I would like to add to what has already been said that hegemonism as such, in the present stage, is a direct antipode to the equality of states and peoples, those great ideals which have inspired the whole world since the time of the October Revolution. And one would like to stress further that condemnation of hegemonism, as proposed by the Soviet Union, has become an urgent task for all members of the United Nations, inasmuch as a policy of hegemonism leads to the creation of hotbeds of tension and destabilizes the international situation. This we can see in the example of the Near East, where Israel wishes to impose its expansionist will on neighboring Arab states. This is the situation in Southeast Asia also, the creation of which has been fostered by the expansionist and hegemonistic policy of the Beijing leadership, and this is also the situation in a number of other regions of the earth.

[Ariyevich] It seems to me that an example of the manifestation of hegemonism can be seen in the situation with the Panama Canal. Tomorrow the handover of the Panama Canal to the jurisdiction of Panama begins. However, we have been observing for a long time the unwillingness of reactionary forces in the American Congress to permit the establishment of jurisdiction over the Panama Canal by the lawful owner, namely, Panama.

[Beglov] I would like to turn to the arguments which some American congressmen used when they were trying to stop the adoption of the second bill, i.e., the bill which had to establish the order of administration in the region of the Panama Canal up to the year 2000, i.e., the year in which complete transfer of the Panama Canal into the possession of the Panamanian Government will take place.

On American congressmen, Republican Representative Floyd Spence, said: I want it written into the annals of history that I had nothing to do with this squandering of American property. Another member of the House of Representatives, Murphy, said: I think that we must act in such a way as not to encourage new unrest in Guatemala and El Salvador and we have to bear in mind that the Panamanians welcomed the Sandinistas of Nicaragua, i.e., the victory of the revolution in Nicaragua.

There you have the attitude of people who speak from the point of view of arbiters, judges and policeman and who reason like proprietors, like people who have claims on manipulating the fates of other states and peoples.

[Ariyevich] And even now, when the bill on the transfer of this canal to Panama has practically been adopted by Congress, the Pentagon nevertheless is demonstrating the desire to use the canal for a demonstration of military strength.

A report has now come in to the effect that the Pentagon is sending an airborne brigade to take part in maneuvers in that region. These maneuvers are a clear demonstration of force and it seems to me that it reflects the desire by some congressmen, some forces within America, to demonstrate their former credo, i.e., that American dictate its conditions to the whole world.

[Beglov] And this is manifested not only in actions of a military nature, in the activities of the military machines, but also in policy. Even in the foundations of the policy itself there are at times these seeds of hegemonism to be found. Last week the assistant to the President of the United States for national security affairs, Zbigniew Brzezinski, spoke to the editors of provincial newspapers: He put forward--and this is being done not for the first time--the following postulate: Our interests--the interests of the United States--are everywhere of a lawful character. Therefore an American presence, American actions in these places or in those places, are always of a lawful character. But the question arises: Who established this law? Has this so-called lawful interest or action in the name of the realization of this lawful interest, been approved by the international community, by the United Nations? The very posing of the questions speaks of the bankruptcy of such doctrines.

[Babenko] It is also a fact, as you rightly noted, Spartak Ivanevich, that in the past hegemonism has cost mankind very dearly. In our nuclear missile age it is a hundred times more dangerous. And so it is time that all UN member states take a clear stand on hegemonism, condemning it and blocking the path of any attempts at hegemony in world affairs. We have put forward this initiative but quite often in Western propaganda one can hear accusations against us. Those who deliver such rebukes have no interest in the truth. They do not care about proof, and there cannot be any, since this is against the very essence and basis of our society.

Every day life provides convincing examples of the fact that in the the Soviet Union's approach to all continents and all countries of the world, there are no double standards when it comes to sovereignty of states, freedom of peoples and genuine human rights. Here I should like to note that the speeches of other delegates at the 34th Session of the UN General Assembly show that the Soviet proposals, both those that have just been made and the proposals made previously, are having a great influence on the whole course of discussion in New York. In the speeches of many of those who appear on the platform of the session, the thought is expressed that it is high time to embody in a concrete agreement the important Soviet proposals which were discussed at previous sessions and in special UN committees. The concluding of concrete agreements on these and other questions is being hindered by those who have no interest in lasting peace and who are striving for hegemonism.

[Ariyevich] That's absolutely true. You can count dozens of our proposals that concern the cardinal task of our time, namely, the curbing of the arms race and disarmament. The agenda of the present session includes Soviet proposals on halting the production of all types of nuclear weapons and the gradual liquidation of stockpiles, on guaranteeing the security of the nonnuclear states, on concluding a world treaty on nonuse of force, and others. They have been received with understanding and approval throughout the world and yet, as Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko noted in his speech, one has to state with a sense of alarm that nearly all the proposals for stopping the arms race and for disarmament as a rule meet with opposition from a number of states. At present, they are bogged down in discussions, and an enormous effort is needed to bring them to the stage of making decisions, though even these decisions do not yet insure real disarmament even in particular sectors. Spartak Ivanovich, why is this, do you think?

Current U.S. Attitudes

[Beglov] Well, as for the generators of the struggle against disarmament, against arms reduction, that exist, say, in the United States, the causes that are operative here are both of a political nature--they are connected with the clash of interest within the ruling camp in the United States--and, on the other hand, of course also with the interests of those circles that cannot in general reconcile themselves to the idea that the machine that is working at full steam--the machine of the arms race--may be slowed down by someone, and that this will threaten both their interests in the buildup of capacities and the interests of so-called U.S. superiority. The fact is that for a great many conservative politicians in America, those brought up in the spirit of the cold war and who have earned political capital on the cold war, it is very difficult to adjust to the idea that there really could be equality in the world in relations between states and parity in the military strategic sphere, or that someone could cast doubt on, or challenge the United States as a side having equal rights, and pursue a policy that is a kind of straitjacket for the aggressive, expansionist interests of the U.S. hawks.

[Ariyevich] The forces interested in maintaining the arms race are doing all they can to increase war psychosis, with various films and books, and even pseudoscientific detailed scenarios of military conflicts played out on computers. Spartak Ivanovich, what sort of people are these that are trying to make other people live with the thought of war? Would you share with us your fresh impressions of the United States? You have just recently been in the United States, haven't you?

[Beglov] Yes, just at the height of the hullabaloo in the United States over Cuba or over the presence of Soviet military personnel in Cuba. In that propaganda fuss they are trying to get people to believe the fiction concerning the source of the threat to peace, to shift the emphasis, so to speak, and lead the guilt away from themselves. The campaign mounted over Cuba can serve as an example. It is full of slander and fabrications about Cuban and Soviet policy. Beijing has not refrained from joining in this anti-Soviet, anti-Cuban campaign. XINHUA agency lost no time in declaring a Soviet occupation of Cuba. I would like to quote in this connection Congressman Bob Carr, who remarked that the only threat posed by the Soviet military personnel in Cuba is that it could provoke some people to make extraordinarily stupid statements. As to the question of who needed this campaign, the impression one gets is that certain circles in the United States are trying to use this campaign as a trump card not only in the matter of ratification of the SALT II treaty, but also for certain purely internal, and even narrow party aims. The French foreign minister, Jean-Francois Poncet, rightly remarked in a television interview that this fuss must be seen in the context of the election campaign that has already begun in the United States.

When I was on the other side of the Atlantic, many American observers were writing that the holiday season is over and Americans are coming back to their everyday duties to find that they had more worries and problems than usual. I quote a prominent observer of the NEWSWEEK magazine: The economic slump seems likely to get worse by winter, as Americans have learned from the economic bulletins; there is not much hope of curbing inflation; many will be having to say goodbye to their jobs and swell the army of the unemployed; after the search for gas will come the search for fuel with which to heat their houses during the winter, and so on. In other words, problems that have been still remain which the politicians do not know how to solve. All this comes at a time when the election campaign is beginning to take shape, with the alinement of forces in the preelection arena. Many politicians are having to seek an answer to the question of where they will get the money and the political support of the party machines for reelection. It comes at a time when there seem to be signs of a positive change in the question of ratification of the SALT II treaty by the Senate, which, in turn, has alarmed and worried the hawks and the rightwing of American politics.

It turns out that the material resources and the resources of political support are, to a large extent, in the hands of the rightwing, especially in the Republican Party but also to a considerable degree in the Democratic Party. Since the rightwing has decided to put up a new fight against the SALT II treaty, there has begun what the prominent American observer (Leslie Gill) calls a holy war of the rightwingers to become established as the legislators of foreign policy. The rightwing was not satisfied with the increase in military spending already announced and demands agreement with its position of putting pressure on the Soviet Union on all lines and through all channels. Americans have seen the conveyor belt of the anti-Soviet fuss turn out with literally once-a-week regularity new myths and new stories to whip up the anti-Soviet fuss in the interests of the right.

In these conditions it is not surprising that those figures in the government and those figures in Congress--in the Senate and members of the House of Representatives--whose political fate depends to a great extent on the outcome of the forthcoming elections and on how they will get support and whether they will get sufficient money and other resources to remain in their posts, have begun to make concessions to the hawks, and to maneuver in such a way that they have created conditions for new splashes of anti-Soviet hullabaloo. They have even created conditions so that the government itself and its representatives should become the mouthpiece for various kinds of conjecture and various kinds of speculation about the Soviet Union's policy, and I think that those observers are not far from the truth. I have in mind the latest comment by James Reston, a leading political commentator who even used the word "chaos" when talking about the present management of affairs in foreign policy in Washington.

[Ariyevich] Even, to a certain extent, the choice of a position on such a treaty as SALT II, which is so important for the whole world and for its future, depends to a great extent on the short-term considerations of the preelection fight. In the final analysis the treaty is Carter's affair, for it is his signature which is on the document and ratification of it will help to enhance the prestige of the present administration. Consequently, congressmen and senators who do not wish to put their stake on the current President in the elections are choosing a negative position with regard to SALT II; although this perhaps contradicts the will of the voters, is this not so?

[Beglov] Yes, but here is the secret of the manipulations and it is described by the magazine PROGRESSIVE. I was at the editorial office of this magazine, which is situated in the town of Madison, and I talked with the editorial staff. This is what they see as the secret of the manipulations by the opponents of the SALT II, as was made clear by Paul Nitze, one of the leaders of the Committee on the Present Danger: We should have talks with the Russians because this is demanded by public opinion, but we should manipulate the talks in such a way that the public becomes convinced that there is no way to act with Moscow, other than by increasing our own might. That is, the very aim of the SALT II treaty is turned inside out in such a way that it is turned, so to speak, to the advantage of the hawks and the opponents of detente. This is well understood by the supporters of the treaty among the American public and they are now actively joining the campaign to sober up the American politicians who have gone too far.

This is discussed in many speeches by sober-minded Americans at meetings and rallies which I have witnessed, in particular, at a very important meeting in New York which was being held under the auspices of several public organizations.

Eurostrategic Missiles

[Ariyevich] But nevertheless it seems to me that one may talk about significant advances in the improvement of the international atmosphere. Detente has become the leading tendency in international life and this was promoted in particular by the signing of the Soviet-American SALT II agreement. On the European Continent today there is a more firm basis for peaceful cooperation between states than there was yesterday. But the roots which political detente has put down in European soil cannot, however, become viable unless practical measures are taken in the field of military detente. Detente is threatened by many dangers, the main one of which is the continuation of the arms race, and a particular manifestation of it has been the plans which are being drawn up by the NATO strategist to station new types of missiles in Europe.

[Babenko] True. The attitude toward detente in our time is the most accurate indicator of intentions in any country's policy, including the European countries. However, good words--and quite a lot of them are now being pronounced in the West--are not enough. These words should be backed up by deeds, by the practical policy of states. The peoples are striving for stable peace and good-neighborliness and in light of this surely neither the European nor the world public can remain indifferent to the fact that the NATO leaders are now preparing to bring Western Europe into a dangerous new twist of the arms race; to station on the territory of the FRG and neighboring West European countries American Eurostrategic weapons, namely, about 600 improved Pershing-2 missiles and cruise missiles, which for the first time will be able to directly reach the territory of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in Europe. How can one convince the average citizen of, say, the FRG, that things will be quieter for him if yet another big keg of gunpowder is rolled into the basement of his house? Very easily, as it turns out, with the aid of the same notorious myth of the Soviet military threat.

Let us turn, for example, to the West German White Paper for 1979, published this autumn, on questions concerning the security of the FRG and the modernization of the Bundeswehr. This is an equivocal document. It says, for example, that Bonn is pursuing a policy of relaxation of tension, which is a realistic long-term policy of settlement. It also points out the need to continue the path, which has been begun, of cooperation with the Soviet Union. At the same time, the White Paper proclaims that the correlation of military might between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty--in NATO's favor, of course-- is of primary significance for the North Atlantic alliance. This is justified by the fact that the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Treaty allies have allegedly been invariably building up their armaments in recent years. This is a false justification. The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community have not threatened anyone and are not threatening now. Obviously, the USSR and its Warsaw Treaty allies cannot fail to take notice of the fact that certain states are continuing their military preparations and are building up the rates thereof, and in these conditions we are forced to display concern for our security. At the same time our approach to this matter is as follows: The Soviet Union's defense potential, pointed out Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, should be sufficient so that no one should risk disrupting our peaceful life. Not a course toward superiority in arms, but a course toward their reduction, toward the diminution of military confrontation, this is our policy.

As for the decision to saturate both West Germany, and Belgium and Holland, which border on it, with new and even more destructive weapons systems which are being prepared by the NATO staff it threatens to poison the political climate in Europe and to cause serious damage to the process of detente. The public is well aware of what a dangerous game is being undertaken by the Atlantic strategists. The mass antimilitary demonstrations which took place both in the FRG and in other West European states at the beginning of autumn show this.

[Ariyevich] In this connection, I would like to quote the words of Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko at the session of the General Assembly with regard to the FRG. Our relations with the FRG, he noted, are developing in a positive direction. Both sides value the mutual benefit of what has been achieved, recognizing that a lot can also be done in the future. I would like to express the hope that nothing will be undertaken on the part of the FRG which would also weaken the possibilities for the future or which would run counter to the line toward peace in Europe and toward the relaxation of international tension.

I think that these words may be applied in full measure also to other countries and not just to those on the European Continent. As for Europe, there are clearly two tendencies operating there and we have talked about them: detente--the European Continent has become a continent of cooperation--but on the other hand....

[Beglov--interrupting], But on the other hand, the bacillus of the whipping-up of tension is coming into Europe from across the ocean.

[Ariyevich] Nevertheless one wants to hope that the first tendency, the tendency of detente, will triumph.

Here we end our broadcast and say goodbye to you. Thank you for listening, and all the best.

FURTHER REPORTAGE, COMMENTS ON UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

Vietnamese, Afghan Delegates

LD291452 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Excerpts] New York, September 29, TASS--TASS special correspondents Vladimir Matyash, Valentin Vasilets and Yevgeniy Menkes report: General debate continues at the 34th regular session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Head of the Vietnamese delegation Phan Hien called on the international community to condemn the policy of the Beijing hegemonists who claim for themselves "the right" "to teach" other states "lessons" in violation of the norms of international law. The speaker stressed that China is preparing a new aggression against Vietnam, which may be unleashed, at any moment now. At the same time, the Beijing authorities have organized a campaign of slander against Vietnam, supported by some quarters in the West.

The experience of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, Phan Hien said, testifies to the necessity of taking immediate action to stop the danger of the Beijing hegemonism. Head of the Vietnamese delegation welcomed the initiative of the Soviet Union which had drawn the attention of the U.N. General Assembly to the necessity to declare the inadmissibility of hegemonism in international relations.

Describing the major socio-economic transformations effected in Afghanistan in the interests of the working people, Shah Wali, the Afghan foreign minister said that the successes of the revolution met with stiff resistance from its enemies both inside and outside the country. Imperialists, reactionaries and left-wing extremists have entered into a collusion to make the Afghan people give up the path chosen. The speaker condemned the foreign attempts at interfering in his country's affairs. He stressed that the government of Afghanistan is prepared to develop friendly relations with all countries on condition that these be based on mutual respect of sovereignty. Shah Wali spoke highly of Afghanistan's cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Head of the Afghan delegation said further that the attempts at establishing domination and hegemony are a matter of serious concern for many nations. In this connection, he welcomed the Soviet proposal expressing the hope that the General Assembly will give the proposal a priority consideration.

Nicaraguan Leader's Attack

ID291315 Moscow TASS in English 2153 GMT 28 Sep 79 ID

[Text] New York, September 28, TASS--Having gained liberty, the Nicaraguan people is now waging a persistent struggle for national reconstruction, stated member of the Government of National Reconstruction Daniel Ortega Saavedra. His speech during the general political debate at the 34th U.N. General Assembly Session was welcomed with stormy applause. These efforts, he said, turn Nicaragua into a target of attack by the most reactionary forces in the USA and Latin-American countries. This sinister alliance is put up under the pretext of an illusory danger the Sandinist Government allegedly presents to neighbouring countries. For example, U.S. Senator Richard Stone demands a still tougher course in regard to the Nicaraguan leadership. Actually such appeals are only a pretext for justifying economic, political and even military pressure on the new Nicaraguan Government. The successful struggle of the Nicaraguan people sets an example for other Latin American peoples and, naturally, seriously frightens all tyrants. The Nicaraguan Government's representative pointed to the continuing denial of civil rights in Puerto Rico, where the United States has military bases. Terror is stepped up against the patriots, people are being put in prison, the speaker said. We firmly support the Puerto Rican people's legitimate rights to national independence. American senators, who are fond of holding forth about human rights, keep silent about the gross violation of human rights in Puerto Rico.

Turning to Southeast Asia, Daniel Ortega Saavedra firmly condemned aggressive actions against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The bloody clique of Pol Pot - Ieng Sary, overthrown by the people, he said, was the product of the Chinese leaders' expansionist policy. Beijing, while hatching criminal designs in Southeast Asia, has not abandoned its intentions in regard to the SRV. The present Chinese leadership still threatens the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, linking up with the most reactionary forces of the world. The speaker expressed confidence that the heroic Vietnamese people will emerge victorious from this struggle soon.

PRAVDA Commentary

ID281207 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 79 p 5 ID

[Correspondents T. Kolesnichenko and Ye. Rusakov report: "General Debate Begins"

[Text] New York, 25 September--The general debate has begun at the 34th UN General Assembly [UNGA] Session. The UN member states' representatives are setting forth their governments' views on the main questions of the present day--war and peace, strategic arms limitation and international detente. It is precisely these problems which are the focus of the debate. This in itself attests to a great deal. The attempts by certain circles to divert the United Nations from the urgent tasks of our time have failed.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, who was the first to speak, stressed the historic importance of the signing of the SALT II treaty which, he said, "should be followed by the next step--SALT III talks, aimed at a considerable reduction in nuclear arsenals and the attainment of all states' goals of total disarmament under effective international control." Touching on the problem of the Near East crisis, the speaker stressed the importantce of an all-round approach to the settlement, including the recognition of the rights of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination, independence and sovereignty. There can be no success, he said, without the PLO's participation in the talks.

U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance spoke. He noted that the liquidation of the cold war opens up real prospects for collective efforts to preserve peace and for constructive diplomacy, whose main task is to complete the process of strategic arms limitation talks. "The SALT II Treaty," he said, "can be a main step in curbing rivalry in the strategic arms sphere." Vance also stressed that the goal of strategic stability can be attained in the future if the United States, the USSR and Britain agree together on a total ban on nuclear tests and the principle of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is observed.

At the same time the U.S. secretary of state devoted a large part of his speech to a justification of U.S. policy in the Near East and Asia. Counter to all known facts, he tried to argue that the Israeli-Egyptian deal called a "peace treaty" is allegedly a "real step" on the path of attaining peace in the Near East. As is well know, the majority of Arab states rejected this deal, which was an act of capitulation by Egypt in the face of the Israeli aggressors' demands and a betrayal of the Arab people of Palestine. Vance's rejoinder that a fundamental improvement allegedly "must take account of the Palestinian people's interests" sounded extremely unconvincing in this connection. After all, everyone knows that the Camp David deal rules out a solution to the Palestinian problem. It merely gives Tel Aviv a free hand for continued occupation of the Jordan west bank. His remarks on the Near East confirm yet again that the United States intends to continue to pursue a policy of support for the Israeli aggressors' demands and of splitting the Arab peoples.

Commentary on Appeal of Hegemonism

ID281502 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 28 Sep 29 ID

["Important Initiative"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, September 28, TASS--TASS news analyst Igor Orlov writes:

The Soviet Union's appeal, made from the U.N. rostrum, for all states to condemn the policy of hegemonism has met with a broad response in the world. The Soviet-suggested draft resolution on the inadmissibility of the policy of hegemonism in international relations is regarded in U.N. circles and outside this organization as a timely action designed to strengthen the mainstays of world peace. It is correctly qualified as a new important link in a whole chain of major Soviet initiatives taken in recent years and aimed at improving the political climate in the world.

Suffice it to recall the broad support received by the Soviet proposal for concluding a world treaty renouncing the use of force in international relations. In this world of mutual interdependence, the only sensible alternative to war is not rivalry but peaceful coexistence based on mutual respect, equality, non-interference in each other's affairs and strict, faithful observance of generally-accepted standards of international law.

Hegemonism is an antipode of the equality of states and peoples. The policy of deepening the relaxation of international tension calls for the elimination from international relations of any manifestations of the policy of hegemonism, that is a striving by some states to dominate the others, to create seats of tension and to destabilize the international situation.

"Peace, non-interference in internal affairs, respect for independence and territorial integrity, equality and mutually-beneficial cooperation--all this," Leonid Brezhnev stressed, "are the necessary and most important elements of detente and a lasting peace. Such is our policy in Europe, such is our policy in Africa, in Asia, in Latin America and in all parts of the world. And if anybody thinks that it is possible with the help of slanderous fabrications and threats to push the Soviet Union off this course he is deeply mistaken."

This clear-cut position of the Soviet Union can be easily traced in all its foreign policy moves, including its proposal for condemning the policy of hegemonism, in whatever form it may be manifested. It is time to declare firmly that under no circumstances and under no motivation should states or groups of states claim hegemony in international affairs, strive to take a dominant position either in the world at large or in any of its regions.

The current general political discussion at the General Assembly session and the great interest shown by world public circles in the new Soviet proposal give ground to believe that the Soviet initiative will be approached with the measure of responsibility it deserves.

MORE ON GROMYKO MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS

Meeting With Khaddam

ID291058 Moscow TASS in English 0701 GMT 29 Sep 79 ID

[Text] New York, September 29, TASS--USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko had a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The talk, which was of a friendly character, covered some issues of Soviet-Syrian relations.

The ministers pointed out the identity of views of the two countries as regards the evaluation of the present Middle East situation. They pointed out the growth of tensions in that area after the anti-Arab deal, the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty was concluded, as well as a result of Israel's stepped up provocations against Lebanon and the Palestine resistance movement. Andrey Gromyko and A.H. Khaddam reaffirmed the mutual striving of the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic to contribute to the cause of a just comprehensive settlement and establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Also discussed were international issues pertaining to the current session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Meeting With Okcun

ID291100 Moscow TASS in English 0703 GMT 29 Sep 29 ID

[Text] New York, September 29, TASS--USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko received Turkish Foreign Minister Gunduz Okcun.

During the talk the ministers discussed some issues of Soviet-Turkish relations. They pointed out the great significance of the political document signed last year on the principles of goodneighborliness and friendly cooperation between the USSR and Turkey.

Views were also exchanged on the problems of Cyprus and other international issues, including those pertaining to the work of the current session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Meeting With Francois-Poncet

LD282322 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2301 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] New York, 29 September, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs, has met with J. Francois-Poncet, French minister of foreign affairs.

In the course of their talk, a number of questions pertaining to Soviet-French relations were discussed. The ministers expressed satisfaction with the advancing development of these relations.

In accordance with established practice of Soviet-French political consultations, international problems of mutual interest were considered, in particular, questions pertaining to the current situation in Europe and some other parts of the world, the limitation of the arms race and disarmament, as well as the work of the current session of the UN General Assembly.

The talk passed in a friendly atmosphere.

FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO LEAVES NEW YORK FOR MOSCOW

LD290541 Moscow TASS in English 0535 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] New York, September 29, TASS--USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, head of the Soviet delegation at the 34th Session of the U.N. General Assembly, has left New York for home.

Arrival in Moscow

LD291018 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR foreign minister and head of the Soviet delegation to the 34th Session of the UN General Assembly, returned to Moscow from New York today.

At the airport he was met by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Tikhonov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; and other officials.

VIENNA MEETING OF OPEC FINANCE MINISTERS REPORTED

LD291202 Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Vienna, September 28, TASS--A session of the OPEC finance ministers closed here. They examined questions of cooperation in the field of finance and recommended increasing the organisation's special fund by 800 million dollars.

The session also discussed the situation which has developed in the international monetary system due to the fall of the U.S. dollar, as a result of which incomes from oil sales by the OPEC member states have fallen off. However, no decision was taken. Before the meeting, as is known, rumours spread about a possible refusal by the oil exporting countries to use the dollar as a unit of account, which caused another bout of "gold rush" at exchanges.

WESTERN ENERGY MINISTERS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN AGAINST OPEC

LD281030 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1905 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 27 September (TASS)--The decisions taken at the conference of the energy ministers of the seven leading Western states in Paris are regarded here as the latest attempt by the United States to knock together a united front of industrial capitalist countries of the West against the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The conference determined limits on oil imports for individual member states of the common market and it was decided to introduce registration of all world oil import deals. As the Washington POST points out, these measures are aimed at controlling and limiting oil imports from the OPEC countries.

At the same time the United States, as is clear from the statement by C. Duncan, the U.S. energy secretary, has only limited itself to a promise to determine its own oil import quotas by the end of this year.

In order to win the other Western powers' agreement to the new control measures directed against OPEC, the United States promised to drop in the near future the system of subsidized oil imports which had aroused fierce protests from the United States' West European partners.

The conference in Paris coincided with the latest hostile campaign against OPEC which has now been launched by American propaganda. The American press is accusing this organization of every sin, and is even accusing the OPEC countries of allegedly buying up large batches of gold on Western currency exchanges. It is common knowledge, however, that the main culprits in the gold speculation are the multinational, mainly U.S., monopolies. It is they who have pushed up the price of gold to unprecedented heights, which have now jumped up to $383 an ounce on the international currency exchanges.

Reactionary Zionist circles in the United States are acting in alliance with the multinational monopolies in the campaign agaist OPEC, of which many Arab states which come out against Israel's expansionist policy, are members. Expressing their malignant views, the observer (R. Tucker) in the magazine COMMENTARY, published by the American Jewish Committee, categorically asserts that OPEC is allegedly the main threat to U.S. interests. According to him, it is necessary to devote more attention to confrontation with OPEC, not excluding "possible application of military forces."

MORE REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON U.S. REACTION TO SOVIET TROOPS ISSUE

Castro Press Conference

LD011205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Sep 79 p 4 LD

[Text] Havana, 29 September, TASS--Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the republic, addressed a press conference for foreign journalists here. He sharply criticized the hullabaloo recently stirred up in the United States over the presence of Soviet military personnel on Cuba.

The Cuban leader said that, in connection with J. Carter's speech which, it has been announced, he is to deliver shortly, he would like to present several questions. I do not know whether he will be kind enough to answer them, but I believe that he must answer the people of the United States, F. Castro declared. My main question is this: Since when has the so-called "military [voyennaya] brigade" been in Cuba? In my opinion this is the whole crux of the problem. It is precisely in this connection that I want to make a categorical and resolute statement.

What you call a brigade and what we call a training center has been in Cuba for 17 years now. This military establishment was created in 1962 in accordance with an agreement adopted in October of that year and in the context of the status quo occurring as a result of the October crisis. The CIA and Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford knew about the existence of this establishment, and Carter too must, of course, have known about it. No overt mention has been made of this establishment but no secret has been made of it either.

After remarking that the U.S. administration is duping the world public and the U.S. public by trying to present matters in such a way as to suggest that Cuba and the USSR have created the present problem, F. Castro said: I declare most responsibly that this is a lie, this is dishonorable; this is insincere and immoral.

I cannot see any logic in this, nor any reasons for uneasiness because we have no nuclear weapons and no strategic weapons. We do not represent any threat to the United States. It seems to me that the United States should be worried about the buildup of the arms race and the irreparable damage that detente will sustain if the SALT II treaty is not ratified. I believe that the United States ought to be worried about these questions.

F. Castro went on to say: It is possible that some people supposed that, since the SALT agreement is very important, it could be used to make demands on Cuba and the Soviet Union, to humiliate Cuba, to complicate the work of Cuba as chairman of the nonalined movement and at the same time to present Carter as a man of vigor who has secured a victory in the international arena. This is a kind of "October minicrisis." However, as the saying goes, history repeats itself once in the form of a tragedy and once in the form of a farce. And I would say that this is indeed a veritable farce.

Deliberate attempts are being made, he continued, to involve three countries in the present problem, and not just the three countries but international interests as well.

It is being said that this minicrisis, this pseudocrisis or whatever it is called there, could jeoparidze the SALT II treaty. And that is so. I believe that this alarms all mankind, not just the United States, the USSR and Cuba.

Answering a question about the present state of Cuban-U.S. relations, F. Castro said: It should not be forgotten that for 20 years now we have constantly felt the hostility of the United States and have been living under blockade conditions.

We remember that, in defiance of the will of the Cuban people, the United States is occupying part of our territory and maintains troops and warships at the Guantanamo Naval Base. This situation has persisted for 20 years. In this period there have been five changes of U.S. administration. All plans directed against the Cuban revolution have failed. Cuba is no longer isolated. The prestige of our revolution has not diminished but, on the contrary, now stands higher than 20 years ago.

Since we are talking about this and I have mentioned the base in Guantanamo, it seems to me that Carter has neither the legal nor the moral right to create the present problem. Moreover, Carter's moral duty is to withdraw the troops and remove the naval base from Guantanamo because its existence is illegal and immoral. I believe that the United States must do just that and not make demands on us which have neither legal nor moral substantiation.

Raul Castro, first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba, who was present at the press conference, noted in this connection that there are now fewer Soviet servicemen in Cuba than there are U.S. Marines at the Guantanamo Base.

Then, in response to a question, F. Castro explained: The numerical strength of the Soviet military personnel helping us in military training remains approximately what it was 17 years ago and they perform the same functions as they did 17 years ago. The whole world knows that.

Everyone knows that in 1962 an agreement was reached between the USSR and the United States. We are not bound by this agreement because we were not party to it. And we did not renounce any of our rights thereby. The whole world knows that the agreement exists and that the Soviet Union supplies us with arms. It is the only country which can supply us with the necessary types of weapons. But the Soviet Union is fulfilling the 1962 agreement unconditionally and scrupulously.

Touching on the motives for the "problem" of the Soviet military personnel in Cuba artifically created by the United States, F. Castro said: I believe that there has been both irresponsibility and the malicious use of information here. The sixth conference of nonalined countries' heads of state and government in Havana was a determining factor in such use of this "information."

It is well known that the United States made great efforts to thwart the holding of this conference, to sabotage it and to influence the course of its work. It established contacts with almost 40 countries in an attempt to put pressure on them by the most diverse means. We have irrefutable proof of this.

F. Castro urged President Carter to tell the American people the truth. In doing so, he noted, the world public would learn that this problem has been created artificially. Will Carter find within himself the courage to admit this? If he does this, I will be frankly delighted.

F. Castro sharply criticized the U.S. line, "inspired," he stressed, "by the Brzezinski theory according to which Cuba as such does not exist at all; Cuba is a satellite of the Soviet Union and does not pursue an independent policy and any issue must therefore be discussed with the USSR and not Cuba." In this connection he said that he would then like to ask: Why is so much attention paid to Cuba if it does not have its own policy? Why is such attention paid to the sixth summit conference? Why is the United States so worried that Cuba is chairman of the nonalined movement? Why does Cuba enjoy such support in this organization if it is regarded as a satellite country?

How, in your opinion, will the question of the Soviet military presence in Cuba be resolved? U.S. journalists asked F. Castro.

USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko, the Cuban leader replied, recently stated that President Carter must close this question. I believe this to be a sensible proposal, since the Soviet Union has given the United States an explanation and, for its part, has not created any problems. It is the United States which has created the problem. So why should problems created by the United States be resolved by others? We have enough problems of our own.

At the press conference F. Castro answered a number of other questions, including questions connected with Cuba's foreign policy steps in the Caribbean region. He emphasized in particular the Cubans' selfless, fraternal support for the just cause of the people of Nicaragua and other peoples of this region.

CBS TV Interview With Castro

LD010952 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 1 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The Cuban leader, Fidel Castro, has described as a dirty game the campaign in the United States alleging the presence of Soviet combat units in Cuba. In an interview for America's CBS television, he said the American administration was artifically creating a crisis where there were no grounds for this. Fidel Castro pointed out that the sole task of the Soviet military personnel was to train Cuban servicemen. Their number and functions, said the Cuban leader, have been the same for 17 years now. The previous American presidents were well aware of this and President Carter, too, must know this. Fidel Castro said there were neither legal nor moral grounds for creating a crisis over this issue.

The Soviet foreign minister, Andrey Gromyko, stressed in his speech in the UN General Assembly that the hue and cry about the presence of Soviet troops in Cuba was groundless. This propaganda campaign was based on fabrications, he pointed out. It was necessary to admit that the question was invented and to close it.

PRENSA LATINA Criticism of Brzezinksi

LD301802 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] The Cuban news agency PRENSA LATINA has sharply criticized the United States for whipping up the question of Soviet military personnel in Cuba. The agency says in a commentary the author of this hostile campaign is the adviser to the United States President on national security, Zbigniew Brzezinski, and that the campaign may damage in the first place the United States itself.

President Fidel Castro said at a news conference in Havana last Friday that there were no Soviet military units in Cuba. He said the United States raised the question in order to undermine Cuba's prestige on the world scene and hinder the ratification of the Soviet-American treaty on strategic arms limitation, SALT II.

'Fabrications' Over Troops

LD281441 Moscow TRUD in Russian 25 Sep 79 p 1 LD

[From V. Sisnev international review: "Sabotage by the Enemies of SALT II"; first paragraph in reader's letter]

[Text] In my view something strange is happening: By accusing Cuba of "secretly concentrating Soviet troops" on its territory, the United States is impudently testifying to the whole world that it is spying on a sovereign country. Is this really permissible? [signed] T.N. Razenkova, laboratory assistant at the Odessa agricultural institute.

The letterwriter's indignation at the impudence of the U.S. military and the irresponsibility of U.S. political opportunists is perfectly understandable. Such behavior seems outrageous not only from the viewpoint of international standards but also from the standpoint of elementary logic. Indeed, what we have, so to speak, is someone who has already violated the laws of good neighborliness accusing his victim of allegedly preparing to commit a similar violation. Evidently Washington figures are still unable to rid themselves of the deep-rooted habit of treating Latin America as their own backyard, although the example of Nicaragua indicates that we are now living in quite different times.

As for the essence of this "problem" which has been plucked out of thin air, the Soviet side has given an exhaustive reply showing the ill-intentioned nature of the fabrications of the Pentagon and its permanent yes-men in the U.S. propaganda apparatus. This reply published back on 11 September drew attention to the fact that the campaign against Cuba and the Soviet Union began precisely at the moment when the discussion of the question of ratification of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. Senate was nearing a decisive phase.

The subsequent development of events has fully confirmed the correctness of the suspicions that this entire ballyhoo was organized with the aim of preventing ratification of the Soviet-U.S. treaty of which, incidentally, President Carter has said the following: "The SALT II treaty is based on the real security needs of our two countries." The White House, it must be noted, is even now maintaining a moderate tone whereas on the other hand certain professionals of the Washington political stage are hastening with all their might to exploit the "Soviet threat from Cuba."

H. Baker, leader of the Republican minority in the Senate, is perhaps the most active in this respect and, strictly speaking, he was the initiator of the present hysteria. He immediately declared that, in his opinion, the SALT II treaty will scarcely be ratified "unless the Russians take some steps to deescalate their presence in Cuba." Even if it were true that a Soviet brigade is stationed on that island, as the Pentagon claims, it must be clear to Baker and others that such an insignificant military unit can in no way represent a serious danger to such a mighty military power as the United States. But if a ballyhoo has been stirred up over an absurd myth, this means that someone in America is in very great need of it.

In our reviews we have already investigated in detail just who precisely finds the SALT II treaty not to be to their advantage and we have reached the only possible conclusion. [paragraph continues]

It is only the military industrialists and their stooges in Washington. But the fact that Baker and some others have alined themselves with these people indicates above all that the elections due to take place in 1980 have begun to have an impact on America's political life. Congressmen are weighing up the sentiments within their own constituencies and are striving to adopt a corresponding stance, although it would seem that stances ought to remain firm and invariable on such fundamental issues as strategic arms limitation.

TIME magazine commentators stated bluntly in the 17 September issue that, for instance, Senator R. Stone, one of those who has "changed his orientation" in connection with the "Cuban danger," is clearly counting on the votes of the counterrevolutionaries who fled from the Island of Freedom and have settled in his constituency (the State of Florida). It merely remains to recall the 21 September speech by French Foreign Minister Francois-Poncet who said that the report about the presence of Soviet military in Cuba "should certainly be viewed in the context of the election campaign which has already started in the United States." Let us also add that the "hawks"--both inveterate and newborn--are orienting themselves toward an extremely active minority of potential voters, but a minority nonetheless. As is well known, 80 percent of Americans favor detente.

Losev on Campaign

LD290030 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Sergey Losev commentary]

[Text] Day in and day out the Americans are flooded by a seemingly endless stream of official statements and comments in the media about the presence of Soviet military personnel in Cuba. Alarmist pronouncements on this score come from a number of American legislators and even from high-ranking administration officials. Verbally, the White House admits that the Soviet military personnel in Cuba, judging by its strength or its functions, poses no threat to the United States. President Jimmy Carter confirmed this, too, speaking in Queen's College in New York and in several other statements. At the same time he used language that sounded like an ultimatum. Actually fuel is added to the fire, unfortunately, by statements of other high-ranking administration officials about the Soviet training center in Cuba, where Soviet military personnel is staying at the request of the Cuban Government for the sole purpose of helping to strengthen the country's defense capability.

Attempts are made to convince the Americans that these tales about a Soviet threat to peace are true. Speaking about these unseemly efforts, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko said this at the United Nations General Assembly session: The truth is that all this propaganda has no real justification and is based solely on inventions. The Soviet Union and Cuba have already declared this. Our advice on this score is simple: One must honestly admit that the entire issue is an invention and should be closed.

Indeed, the pretentious campaign in the United States over the presence of the Soviet military personnel in Cuba cannot fail to lead to a question being asked about the concealed goals the sponsors of this unseemly campaign pursue. If one approaches the issue objectively, it is clear to any unbiased observer that the Soviet-Cuban cooperation over the years, prompted by the need to ensure Cuba's defenses, is an inalienable right of the two sovereign countries. Any attempt to limit this right runs counter to the accepted standards of international relations. The presence of the Soviet military personnel in Cuba does not violate the Soviet-American understanding of 1962.

The Cuban Republic had to strengthen its defense capability in view of the designs by counter-revolutionary forces, which are inspired from abroad, and in view of the continued existence of an American base at Guantanamo.

A former United States under secretary of state, George Ball, has reasonably described as rather strange, in a comment in the Washington POST, the challenging statement by Senator Henry Jackson that the United States should prevent the creation of a Cuban fortress. Mr Ball said in the comment that a fortress is known to be a defensive structure and so far no one was suggesting an invasion.

This comment raises the following question: Why should Washington start such a noisy campaign about Cuba if certain American quarters are not contemplating new provocations against the Cuban revolution? George Ball recalls that Henry Kissinger, who invented the idea of linkage, insists that the Soviet Union should behave the way the United States wants it to. Mr Ball notes that such suggestions puzzle him, because as a child he was taught that linking one thing with another was nonsense. And George Ball adds that nothing has happened since then, it seems, to make him change this view. In the opinion of the former United States State under secretary, the main weakness of the American stand lies in the fact that on the periphery of the Soviet Union, for one in Turkey, Norway and Iran, there are American Army contingents and bases and all these countries are situated not 90 miles away from the Soviet border but next to it. This strange status quo apparently suits the Pentagon. At the same time the United States is trying to change it in its favor in other regions, to the detriment of the security and sovereign rights of other nations.

This approach is wrong. The sooner the United States realizes that the tactics of blackmail have no prospects, the better for the prospects of peace and for the future of Soviet-American relations.

Zorin on 'Military Instructors'

LD300322 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary in "Moscow Viewpoint" program]

[Text] Recently there has been a lot of talk about a new Soviet military threat, the presence in Cuba of supposedly several thousand Soviet troops. I see no need to spend time refuting these lies in the American mass media about a small number of Soviet military men in Cuba with a very limited function who are supposedly a threat to the national security of the United States.

Despite the mass hysteria artificially created and urged on, anyone capable of a sober and unbiased analysis can see the absurdity of the propaganda campaign.

This week I'd like to focus on one aspect of the problem of anti-Soviet hysteria promoted by certain groups, and that is that the issues raised in each campaign are of secondary importance--the main intent is to continually stir hostility and mistrust towards the Soviet Union.

Today Americans are being frightened by absurd stories about Soviet military instructors in Cuba. I'm certain that this campaign won't last long. Sooner or later people with common sense will see that it's absolutely absurd to talk about the danger to the United States because a limited number of Soviet military men are stationed in Cuba at the invitation of the Cuban Government.

However, based on experience over the past few years I can predict two things. First, when the bubble bursts in this current anti-Soviet campaign, those who dreamed it up won't feel obliged to admit to the absurdity of it all or apologize to the millions of Americans who were deliverately misled. And, second, as soon as the current campaign dies down the manipulators of public opinion will come up with another myth that will discourage efforts to ease international tension and encourage another arms buildup.

For instance, in the sixties the American mass media and top leaders in Washington tried to convince Americans that the events in Vietnam called for American military interference. The American people were told that if the Vietnamese patriots, after their long fight for independence, would be victorious the security of the United States would be in terrible danger, so Washington's bright boys came up with the domino theory to claim that a victory for the Vietnamese patriots would set off a chain reaction in many parts of the world and would put the United States in a critical position. It was in the midst of this campaign that Washington sent hundreds of thousands of American soldiers to the jungles of Vietnam. Very many of these boys never returned.

I've been to the United States many times and I know that a certain percentage of Americans fell for the propaganda abracadabra to justify the dirty war in Vietnam, but when the United States finally withdrew from Vietnam United States security did not suffer in the least. On the contrary.

I've noticed one interesting coincidence--if you can call it that--the articles in the United States press about a Soviet military threat from the territory of Cuba are written by the very same news analysts who tried to justify escalating the war in Indochina. When the subject of Vietnam no longer served the interests of the organisers of anticommunists hysteria other excuses were used to prevent cooperation between nations and interfere with the cause of peace. Falsehoods were made up about Angola, Ethiopia, human rights violations and what not, and in each case the American mass media used the technique of sensation to misinform the public with the aim of strring hostility, mistrust and even hatred towards the Soviet Union.

The propaganda slogans are changed along with the names of people and places, but what remains the same is the desire to keep the propaganda pitch so high that Americans will be distracted from wondering why they should go on making sacrifices to feed the huge military budget that ends up [word indistinct] the bank accounts of several dozen military industrial firms. What would happen if one fine day there'd be no more fuel for the anti-Soviet propaganda campaign? Hysteria would die down and the political situation would become more stable. But in that case it wouldn't be possible to (?shove) through Congress one bloated military budget after another. Millions of people wouldn't approve of billions of dollars going for new arms build-ups when the money is so badly needed for social programs.

So it isn't a Soviet threat from the territory of Cuba that's worrying the organizers of this current propaganda campaign. They know very well that no threat exists. What they're concerned about is preventing the relaxation of tension in order to protect their unjust profits. This is what's behind the unscrupulous propaganda game of those who are ready to sacrifice the national security and interests of the United States just to save their own profits.

U.S. Domestic Debate Over Troops

LD301808 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1330 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 30 September, TASS--Prominent U.S. politicians are condemning attempts by opponents of detente to make use of the noisy propaganda campaign unleashed in the country around the so-called "problem of the presence of Soviet military personnel on Cuba" to thwart the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. SALT II treaty.

Speaking at Hanover (New Hampshire), U.S. Vice President W. Mondale criticized those American senators who are trying to link this "problem" with ratification of the treaty. "Some people say," he noted, "that it is necessary to abandon the SALT II treaty because of the situation in Cuba. In my opinion this is an example of poor leadership."

According to Mondale's admission, information available to the United States confirms that the numerical strength of the Soviet personnel in Cuba has not changed since the mid-sixties.

The propaganda hullabaloo raised by certain circles in the United States has been ridiculed by R. Byrd, the leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate. I believe, he said, that a big country which considers itself mature should not allow itself to get into a state of nervous shock because of the presence in Cuba of Soviet military personnel who have probably been there for the past 20 years and who do not constitute a U.S. security threat.

R. Byrd stressed that he is trying to prevent a situation in which the SALT II treaty would suffer because of "secondary" issues. He also warned that the treaty should not become the subject of the pre-election struggle in the United States

KORILOV SEES FORWARD BASING POLICY AS 'REAL' THREAT TO PEACE

LD010733 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 Sep 79 p 3 LD

[Yuriy Kornilov international review: "U.S. Military Bases a Threat to Peace"]

[Text] We have before us a picture published in the American magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT: A map of the world and beside it a group of American soldiers in helmets pulled low over their eyes, toting submachineguns. Stars on the map denote regions of U.S. "military presence" abroad. In all, according to the magazine, approximately 500,000 Pentagon GI's (that is what American Army soldiers are called in the United States) are stationed abroad, including more than 300,000 in West European states, more than 140,000 in Pacific and Far Eastern regions (mainly in Japan and South Korea), and almost 16,000 officers and men in Latin America (including the Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba).

These figures speak for themselves. However, in order to make the picture of the U.S. "military presence" abroad more complete, the following figures could also be cited. At present, according to press data, the United States maintains almost 2,500 military bases abroad, including more than 300 large bases.

U.S. troops stationed on the territory of 114 states are equipped with the most modern weapons, including nuclear weapons. More than 7,000 nuclear warheads, each with a yield greater than that which turned Hiroshima to ashes on 6 August 1945, are concentrated on American military bases in West Europe alone.

What aim is Washington pursuing by continuing the policy begun back in the cold war times of "reinforcing the U.S. military presence" in many parts of the world, sometimes thousands of miles away from American shores?

The U.S. "military presence" outside its own borders is none other than the practical embodiment of the aggressive foreign policy line of those U.S. circles connected with the Pentagon and NATO, which voice the aspirations of the powerful military-industrial complex and, uninterested in detente, gamble on the "big stick" in international relations. This is a line aimed at fueling tension, creating a threat to independent and sovereign states--the socialist states above all--and suppressing national liberation movements; a line of pressure and diktat. Even according to America's own figures, during the present century the United States has resorted directly or indirectly to the use of force or threatened military intervention 215 times and threatened to use nuclear weapons 33 times in the name of realizing its mercenary foreign policy aims. This is how the American "forward-basing concept" appears in practice and in action!

Even now, in this day and age, some U.S. circles still act contrary to the spirit of the times and pursue the policy of building up America's "military potential" in various parts of the world. This is graphically evidenced by Washington's and NATO's plans for creating a huge "nuclear missile dump" in West Europe and deploying on the territory of a number of West European states--particularly, the FRG--600 of the latest Pershing 2 ballistic missiles and increased-range cruise missiles, aimed at the socialist countries. What is the purpose of these plans? Quite obviously, they constitute an attempt to upset the military equilibrium which has evolved in Europe, to secure military superiority for themselves and then to launch policy "from a position of strength" with regard to the socialist countries.

Is the desire of certain U.S. circles to assume the role of world policeman, so as to instill their chosen order by force everywhere they can, not evidenced by the plans to create a so-called "quick strike corps"? It is clear from press reports that this 100,000-strong military group will be specially designed to be transferred immediately "at need," to any part of the so-called "arc of crises" which runs, according to Pentagon concepts, through Southeast Asia, the Near East, Africa and Central and South America [sentence as published]. Aggressive "aircraft carrier diplomacy"--there is another word for the functions of the "quick strike corps"!

The very network of the U.S. military bases--those springboards of aggression--is continuing to be strengthened and extended. Recently, for example, the United States has been actively "strengthening" the military base situated on the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean: This base is the chief strong point of the new U.S. Navy's 5th fleet, which is now being created and whose task is to maintain a "constant presence" in the waters of the Arabian Sea, the Persian Gulf and the northwestern part of the Indian Ocean. There is news of Washington plans, under secret articles of the Camp David agreement, to send a sizable contingent of American military advisers to Egypt.

The U.S. plans connected with building up the American "military presence" in various parts of the world have also been given appropriate "propaganda backing." At the same time as Washington is trying persistently to turn a number of West European countries into Pentagon "nuclear missile carriers," accelerating the creation of the interventionist "quick strike corps" and allocating millions of dollars to strengthen existing military bases and create new ones, American and NATO propaganda is stepping up savage slanderous attacks on the Soviet Union and intimidating the average Western citizen with fables about the mythical "Soviet threat." And just where do the Atlantic strategists not discover this nonexistent "threat"! Now they exaggerate absurd fabrications about "armadas of Soviet tanks" which are supposedly ready to make a dash for the European plains at any moment; now they find "Soviet bases" in Africa, now they raise a provocative ballyhoo over a mythical "Soviet combat presence" in Cuba, seeking, according to the New York TIMES, to "create an atmosphere close to hysteria in the United States." The fabrications differ, but the aim is the same: to slander the USSR's peace-loving and consistent foreign policy, to conceal their own aggressive intentions and to justify the policy of fueling the arms race.

However, now that the trends toward improving the political climate are growing and strengthening despite the intrigues of detente's enemies, the malicious fabrications about "Moscow's aggressiveness" are no longer achieving their purpose. Objective observers point out with good reason that, if we are to speak of a threat to peace and the peoples' security, the origins of this threat--which is not mythical but perfectly real--are rooted precisely in U.S. foreign policy, which gambles on force guided by the overtly aggressive concept of "forward basing." It is not the USSR but precisely the United States which threatens peace with its "base strategy"! As Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, emphasizes, "it is not we but the United States that has created dozens of military bases with bombers and submarines, with long-range nuclear and other weapons--bases which extend in a sinister chain along the borders of the USSR and our allies in the south and the north, in the west and the east."

Our country is resolutely opposed to the buildup of troops and arms on the territories of other states and it confirms over and over again its consistent stand in favor of the conclusion of agreements on the reduction of armed forces and arms and of new efforts on an international scale to liquidate military bases on foreign territories and to withdraw foreign troops from the territories of other states. This principled, peace-loving foreign policy course meets with broad international public support.

WEEKLY SEES MX DECISION AS ATTEMPT TO GAIN MILITARY ADVANTAGE

LD281559 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 39, 21 Sep 79 pp 10-11 LD

[V. Boykov article: "A Step Forward, A Step Back"]

[Text] The MX missile which has been under development since 1972 has received final approval from the White House. The decision to embark on deploying it was compared by J. Carter with "two other important decisions taken by presidents this century"--the creation of strategic aviation under H. Truman and the equipping of the U.S. Armed Forces with Minuteman ICBMs under J. Kennedy.

Washington's decision cannot, indeed, be called an ordinary one, if only because it is not every day that the "go-ahead" is given to projects costing $33 billion. What form does this system take and how is the need for its deployment being justified?

The MX will be twice as heavy as the biggest U.S. Minuteman 3 missile. Weighing 95 tons, it will be able to carry 10 warheads whereas its predecessor had "only" 3. But in the Pentagon's opinion, the chief merit of the MX is its invulnerability. U.S. strategists believe that in the eighties the ground-based ICBMs now in existence might in theory be knocked out by a surprise missile strike. Such a danger, they say, does not threaten the MX thanks to its mobility and method of basing which is depicted in the accompanying sketch reprinted from TIME magazine.

Each of the 200 MX missiles will travel around a 10-15 mile elliptical track specially built. It is proposed that 23 concrete shelters will be sited along this "racetrack" into which a transporter-launcher will be driven from time to time to deposit or pick up the missile. This system, in the words of J. Carter, "will increase the invulnerability of our missiles by increasing the number of targets which an enemy would have to attack, for he would not know in which of the 23 silos the missile might be."

The White House asserts that the MX is essential in order to strengthen U.S. security. But there is also a different viewpoint. The peace-loving public have interpreted Washington's decision as the start of a new arms race spiral. Opposition to these schemes is also growing in the United States itself. The Federation of American Scientists, for instance, declared: The MX is not just a strategic mistake for which many billions of dollars will be expended and which will have an inflationary impact. It will have adverse consequences for arms control.

The theoretical vulnerability of ground-based ICBMs which is used as justification for the plans to create the MX is not just a problem for the United States. Therefore the intention to solve it unilaterally is tantamount to an attempt to secure a military advantage. "If the mobile MX system turns out to be completely effective for America and if Moscow does not have such a system," the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes, "this will mean that the United States will have provided itself with the potential to deliver a 'first strike' against the Soviet Union." However, it is naive, to say the least, to pin hopes on obtaining a strategic advantage. A challenge is usually answered for the sake of preserving parity. Will this in the final analysis increase U.S. security? Experience shows that each new spiral of the arms race engenders new problems and new threats to security.

Just consider the same question of vulnerability of which there is currently so much talk in the United States. It arose as a result of the enhanced accuracy of strategic weapons and the appearance of MIRVed warheads. It will be recalled that the USSR once made an insistent proposal that a clause prohibiting the creation of such weapons be included in the text of the SALT II agreement. However, at that time Washington yielded to the pressure of the "hawks" and refused to accept the Soviet proposal. The genie was let out of the bottle.

Certain specialists believe that the vulnerability of ground-based ICBMs and the significance of this factor for U.S. security are being greatly exaggerated by MX supporters.

After all, these missiles account for less than 25 percent of U.S. strategic warheads. The rest are submarines and bombers which are considered invulnerable. These forces alone, the experts point out, are more than adequate to party any "strike" the Americans are frightened of.

All this indicates that the U.S. weekly BUSINESS WEEK is evidently right in asserting that Washington's decision to deploy the new weapon system can be attributed "to political rather than military needs." Many observers concur in the opinion that the MX is a "bone" thrown to the "hawks" in return for their support for the SALT II treaty. The same objective is pursued by the recently announced White House decision to seek the allocation of additional military appropriations. If Congress approves this proposal, U.S. military spending will amount to the astronomical sum of $141.2 billion in the next fiscal year.

And so the step toward military detente, which is what the SALT II treaty's signing was, is now being "compensated for" in Washington by a step along the path of the arms race.

CARTER DEFENSE DIRECTIVE MAY HEAT UP ARMS RACE

LD291111 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A topic currently under discussion in the American corridors of power is a presidential directive outlining the principles that should govern future negotiations on arms control. This is the subject of our next commentary by one of our news analysts:

According to the press this directive drawn up in great secrecy provides that the United States will enter into no arms control negotiations unless it is confident they will not prejudice existing military programs. The directive also requires that the objective of any new negotiations should meet three main criteria: It should be compatible with existing defense aims and with the state of the American Armed Forces; it should serve the foreign policy interests of the Western countries; and at the same time it should help to restrain potential opponents, limit the arms race and make conflicts less likely.

So it requires no special study of the President's directive to see that it is above all in the interests of the military-industrial complex and the country's brasshats. If the United States intends to conduct arms control negotiations without prejudicing its own military programs, this will obviously compel the other party to look after its military programs. That being so, the negotiations will become meaningless and will merely serve as a screen for the arms race. Naturally, that will be contrary to the hopes of the peoples who want their governments to put an end to the arms race and to take real and specific steps in that direction.

This is realized in the United States, too. According to the New York TIMES, some American officials fear that the directive will act as a brake on arms control. Among American arms control specialists it is felt for one thing that the directive may be used to cause a breakdown in the Soviet-American talks on limiting the sale of conventional arms and in the talks on stopping nuclear weapons tests, which also involve Britain. In those quarters it is also pointed out that the President's directive considerably enhances the role of the Pentagon in shaping America's posture at this or that round of talks on reducing arms and enables the Joint Chiefs of Staff to block such talks.

It could be added to this that considering the enormous influence wielded in the Pentagon by the military-industrial monopolies, their role in shaping administration policy towards ending the arms race will increase even more. There can be little doubt about the consequences this will have. There can only be another spiral of the arms race and the development of new and even more expensive types of arms, still more profitable to the monopolies. Quite obviously, the President's directive reflects the West's attempts to wed two incompatibles: to keep telling the world of its dedication to the ideals of disarmament and at the same time to keep extending the arms race into new areas. Even those who believed in the readiness of the United States and its allies to work earnestly with the socialist countires on the problem of restricting the arms race are now having growing doubts as to whether the ruling circles in the Western countries are sincere in wishing to solve this problem.

Such doubts are supported by the lack of progress at the Vienna talks where there has long been no reply to Soviet proposals that went a long way to meet Western viewpoints. They are supported by the unwillingness of the United States to continue the bilateral American-Soviet talks on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean and by certain other arms reduction talks that the Western countries are stalling. The President's new directive, which has now provided an explanation of the administration's approach to disarmament talks, is yet another indication that the assurances of the American ruling circles professing an interest in solving that problem should be treated with a grain of salt.

This is also the context in which we have to consider massive Western propaganda alleging a Soviet military threat. Sabotage of arms control talks, together with the intimidation of the Western public by means of this threat, is now becoming the chief tool by which Western militarist circles are trying to bring back the days of the cold war. For it's in the climate of a cold war that the green light is given to war preparations and the militarist circles are able to increase their power and their influence on the policies of their country and on the international situation in general. But the military-industrial monopolies are not almighty. The international public has considerable experience of successful struggle against repeated attempts to hot up the arms race, a race that threatens to move the world from a cold war into a shooting war. Undoubtedly, the public will have a weighty word to say on the subject once again.

SENATORS PUT LOCAL AFFAIRS BEFORE NATIONAL SECURITY

LD281328 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] And now comment by Stanislav Kondrashov on discussions underway in the United States on the SALT II treaty:

What is more important, the reelection of Senator Frank Church from the state of Idaho or ratification of the Soviet-American SALT II treaty? The question might seem strange but certainly justifiable. Recent events in the United States bear this out.

For the American and Soviet people and for the whole world, the SALT II treaty is of course more important. Senator Church just cannot outweigh the importance of an arms limitation treaty. And by the way he has come out in support of SALT II. But when it is a matter of his political future, the senator is prepared to dump the treaty in order to be reelected in 1980.

Senator Frank Church is at the source of the current campaign about the so-called Soviet military threat in Cuba. He was the first to demand a withdrawal of Soviet troops from Cuba, insisting that otherwise the United States Senate would not ratify SALT II. He was the one who set the tone in the discussion, and now Carter's administration is involved in the campaign. It does not know how to save face and get out of this situation as complicating Soviet-American relations. [sentence as heard]

And so what is motivating Senator Church? United States news analysts say the motives are of a personal nature. In Idaho Church has a reputation as a liberal, so he wants to counter the attacks of the conservatives, who don't want him reelected. The conservatives accuse him of being too soft; he is trying to prove how tough he can be by demanding that the Soviet Union must withdraw its military men from Cuba or the Senate won't pass SALT II. That was clearly behind the senator's actions, which threaten the fate of an important agreement that would decrease the chance of war and promote the relaxation of international tension. The senator is prepared to exchange favorable prospects for Soviet-American relations for several thousand votes in his home state. And it is still not even clear whether or not the voters would go for this exchange.

Here I would like to recall that opponents of efforts to ease international tension wanted to make the SALT II talks hinge on other issues, such as the problems on Ethiopia and so-called Cuban presence in Zaire. Later the initiators admitted the campaign was groundless. That time Senator Church had a more responsible approach and came out against these detrimental actions. But now, when Senator Church is up for reelection, he is not against attaching the fate of SALT II to his reelection in Idaho.

But let's forget about the senator and make a more simple analysis, since he is not the only one who puts personal interest above international security. James Reston has written about what he calls chaos in United States foreign policy, which is devised both by the White House and Capitol Hill. He noted that it is hard to remember a time when Congress was so divided and representatives so concerned about personal, local interests or state interests and so unconcerned about doing their main duty or coping with the complicated problems of the eighties. After citing several examples of the chaos, Reston concludes that each senator is now a state department of his own. What patience and restraint countries negotiating with the United States must have when they are forced to deal not with one but hundreds of departments of state, and not one national policy but a policy for Idaho and a policy for Louisiana and so forth.

A question arises, which American legislators usually address to others, but which is more pertinent to them: Is the United States a reliable partner in international affairs and is the United States prepared to carry out agreements signed by official representatives? Under the Nixon administration, Arthur Schlessinger coined the phrase "the imperial Congress." In structure the United States Senate is very similar to the ancient Roman Senate. [words indistinct] United States senators would like to assume the powers of their ancient Roman counterparts.

It is a different world today however and modern senators have much greater responsibility and there is no way to get around this responsibility with excuses about American democracy and its unique mechanism for deciding United States foreign policy.

CARTER'S MEETING WITH MEXICAN PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO NOTED

LD291106 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Washington, September 29, TASS--A meeting was held here on Friday between U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo.

According to a White House spokesman, the talks covered bilateral relations between the USA and Mexico. Main attention was devoted to the problem of Mexican immigrants working on the territory of the United States. It is believed that there are several million of them. They have no rights in the USA and are subjected to merciless exploitation by American employers.

Talks End Without Progress

LD301714 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Talks between Carter, the president of the United States, and Portillo, the president of Mexico, have ended in Washington. Bilateral relations as well as regional and global issues of mutual interest were discussed. However, it did not prove possible, during the talks, to achieve tangible progress on problems of importance to both countries such as energy resources, the position of Mexican immigrants in the United States and environmental protection in the border regions.

U.S. TRADE OFFICIALS MEET WITH USSR'S PATOLICHEV

LD281543 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report under general heading "Business Ties Strengthening"]

[Text] N.S. Patolichev has had a meeting with W. Verity, cochairman of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, and council President M. Forrestal, who are in Moscow. Questions of trade and economic relations between the USSR and the United States and the council's role in their development were discussed.

V.N. Sushkov, Soviet cochairman of the United States-USSR Trade and Economic Council and USSR deputy foreign trade minister, participated in the talks.

CHINA

WANG YOUPING ATTENDS PRC 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Moscow Soiree

OW281025 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 28 Sep 79 OW

[Text] A soiree celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China was held at the house of friendship with various peoples in Moscow on 27 September.

Among those present were Wang Youping, head of the Chinese Government delegation at the Soviet-PRC talks in Moscow and vice foreign minister, Tian Zengpei, charge d'affaires of the Chinese embassy in the USSR, members of the Chinese government and officials of the Chinese embassy.

Comrade Khorokhodin, deputy chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, on behalf of the union and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, congratulated the Chinese guests on the PRC's 30th national day. The soiree celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the PRC then began.

Festive Rally

ID281452 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 28 Sep 79 ID

[Text] The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and the Moscow public have marked the coming 30th birthday of the People's Republic of China with a rally and performance. The audience included the Soviet deputy foreign minister, Leonid Ilichev, and other officials. The Chinese deputy foreign minister, Wang Youping, members of the Chinese delegation and embassy officials were also present.

Charge d'Affaires' Reception

OW291023 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 29 Sep 79 OW

[Text] On Friday, the Soviet and Chinese government delegations held another preliminary meeting in Moscow. The two delegations were separately headed by Ilichev and Wang Youping, deputy ministers of the foreign affairs of the two nations. At the meeting held on Thursday, the two sides had decided on an agenda for talks through the discussion. The talks are to be held alternatively in Moscow and Beijing.

On the same day, Tian Zengpei, the charge d'affaires of the PRC in the USSR, gave a reception on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The members of the Soviet and Chinese government delegations participating in the talks in Moscow attended the reception.

TANJUG CITES SHISHLIN TV COMMENTARY ON SINO-SOVIET TALKS

ID292222 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2124 GMT 29 Sep 79 ID

[Text] Moscow, September 29 (TANJUG)--It is still early to expect any positive results from the Sino-Soviet negotiations on the normalisation of inter-state relations, it was quite authoritatively assessed in Moscow this evening. The view was (?presented) on the Soviet TV by Nicolay Shishlin, an analyst in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee.

Theclearly optimistic statements made by Chinese delegation head Wang Youping in Beijing (Peking) and on his arrival in Moscow were termed as correct in the TV programme.

Shishlin, however, cited a recent statement by Chinese Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping, whom he described as "the main architect of the Chinese foreign policy", and assessed the statement as [word indistinct] gloomy forecast of the Soviet-Chinese negotiations.

The Soviet stance in the negotiations was presented as constructive.

Referring to foreign commentaries speculating that the Soviet Union could use the dialogue as a strong card in its relations with Western partners, Party Central Committee official Vladimir Zagladin assessed such a view of the Chinese policy as simplified.

This is the first commentary in Moscow on the forthcoming Sino-Soviet negotiations since the arrival of the Chinese delegation last week.

KOMMUNIST ARTICLE ON SOVIET-SINO RELATIONS REPORTED

ID282154 Moscow TASS in English 2119 GMT 28 Sep 79 ID

[Text] Moscow, September 28, TASS--Under the headline "To the History of Soviet-Chinese Relations" the magazine KOMMUNIST reproduces the full text of an "address" from the Council of People's Commissars of the Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic to the Chinese people and the governments of North and South China. This address, issued some 60 years ago, constitutes an outstanding landmark in the history of Soviet-Chinese relations. True to the principles of the self-determination and equality of nations, the magazine writes, the Soviet Government offered China to make these principles the foundation of relations between the two peoples and the two great countries. It expressed readiness to come to agreement with the Chinese people, in the person of its plenipotentiary representatives, on all other questions on the basis of equality, and offered the immediate establishment of official relations between the two countries. As KOMMUNIST points out, the principles outlined in the address were further developed in many other Soviet doguments. They made up the cornerstone of Lenin's consistent policy of friendship with the Chinese people. This policy enormously helped the Chinese people in its harsh many-years' struggles against foreign imperialism. In the course of this struggle truly revolutionary solidarity between the peoples of the Soviet Union and China consolidated.

The magazine recalls that after the victorious revolution and the formation 30 years ago on October 1, 1949, of the People's Republic of China the principles laid down in the address of the Council of People's Commissars became a genuine basis of relations between the USSR and the PRC. These principles were developed and sealed in the historical treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual aid signed in Moscow on February 14, 1950. Materialized in it was the conclusion of progressive Chinese on the unbreakability of their country and Soviet Union's historical destinies, a conclusion drawn in suffering by the many-years of revolutionary struggle of the Chinese working people.

KOMMUNIST notes the coolness that took place in the last two decades between China and the Soviet Union, for which the Soviet Union is not to blame, and the Chinese Government statement on its intention not to prolong the treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual aid between the USSR and the PRC, was given a principled assessment in the Soviet government statement of April 5, 1979. At the time this act by the Chinese leadership aroused sharp condemnation by all the world's progressive public.

JAPANESE PRESS CRITICIZED FOR ANTI-SOVIET ATTITUDE

OW290957 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 28 Sep 79 OW

[Vladimir Isvetov Tokyo dispatch]

[Text] SANKEI SHIMBUN has joined with an American intelligence organization in a campaign to prevent improvement in Soviet-Japanese relations. An American intelligence organization recently passed on information to the Japanese Government about "military construction" in Shikotan, a Soviet-owned island. Refusing to heed the call of sensible Japanese people not to start a furor over this information, SANKEI SHIMBUN has wantonly set off hysteria to the detriment of Japan's national interest.

SANKEI SHIMBUN has carried an article entitled "Shikotan Base, a Product of Weak-Kneed Diplomacy." Through this article, the paper has not only reopened the anti-Soviet campaign over the issue of the nonexistent Soviet threat, but also pounced upon those people who have up to now tried, although not hard enough, to block the rekindling of the anti-Soviet campaign.

The article is written in a cold war tone, a tone that has never before been used by major Japanese mass media. SANKEI SHIMBUN thinks that Japan should negotiate with the Soviet Union from a position of strength so as to compel the Soviet Union to adopt a moderate policy toward Japan. This newspaper seems to have forgotten that no policy based on a position of strength has ever, not even once, benefited anyone.

SANKEI SHIMBUN fondly recalls that a Japanese division was stationed on Shikotan during World War II. But the newspaper forgot to tell its readers who started that war, who brought untold misfortunes to the Japanese people and what the immutable arrangements were for the settlement of the war.

For some reasons, SANKEI SHIMBUN is forgetful of these current development that are unfolding before our eyes: The Self-Defense Forces are stepping up military activities jointly with U.S. troops and ships in Hokkaido, near the Soviet boundary, and they are conducting numerous exercises simulating joint combat action against the Soviet Union. However, these facts reflect the desire of those circles who want Japan to militarize itself and produce arms and who want to gear up tension in the Far East.

What deserves attention is the timing of the reopening of the anti-Soviet campaign by SANKEI SHIMBUN and other Japanese newspapers. It is quite apparent that the government party needs the ballyhoo over the Soviet-held Shikotan first of all to divert the attention of the electorate from the present hardships confronting the Japanese public-the difficulties arising from the fiscal and energy crises, graft, increased taxes, inadequate social security measures and other causes.

There is another facet to the campaign. In Moscow the conference of the Japanese USSR economic cooperation committees has ended in success, opening up new prospects for the two countries. The wishes of the countries to develop bilaterial relations and economic cooperation were also expressed when Soviet and Japanese Foreign Ministers Gromyko and Sonoda met in New York where they attended the UN General Assembly Session.

Whenever glimpses of a bright future for USSR-Japan relations appear, certain circles in Japan and abroad try to undermine the process of improving these relations. Needless to say, this hurts Japan more than anyone else--Japan benefits from good relations with its neighbors.

JAPANESE 'CONCERNED' OVER PRESENCE OF U.S. BASES

LD291158 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 29, TASS--TASS news analyst Viktor Zatsepin writes:

American officials, who have recently frequented Asia, are persistently urging Japan to build up its armed forces and are accompanying these calls with statements about plans of a build-up of U.S. troops in that region. Such a statement was made in particular, according to the Japanese press, by U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale during his recent visit to Asia. Reports have appeared on preparations for sending additional military contingents of the United States to Japan.

Washington has in all evidence ultimately gone back on its promise given two years ago to reduce its military presence in the Far East. At present, the Far East and the western part of the Pacific make, according to the U.S. military doctrine, the "second front" of U.S. defence lines, which is designed to complement its "military effort in Western Europe". Japan is becoming a cornerstone of this front.

After the defeat of the USA in Indochina and the weakening of its positions in that region, Japan assumed primary significance in the Pentagon's plans.

There is, perhaps, no other country among the allies of the United States whose territory is covered with such a network of military bases as Japan. There are more than 140 bases in that country now. The Pentagon has carried out in recent years a so-called reorganization of these bases by creating powerful military complexes in the country's strategic regions.

A special role in the Pentagon's Far East strategy is attached to Okinawa islands. Officially these islands were returned by the United States to Japan seven years ago. But actually their position has not changed. The masters there are, as before, U.S. generals. More than 60 U.S. military bases with 35,000 men and officers are situated in the islands.

The Pentagon has recently sharply intensified its actions for the coordination of military efforts of the USA, Japan and South Korea. The Pentagon attaches the main role in this tripartite alliance to Japan as the most stable partner in Asia.

But these Pentagon plans are a source of serious concern for broad Japanese public. The prospect of being a hostage of the Pentagon, whose strategist set their defence line at a distance of 5,000 miles from the territory of the United States, does not suit the Japanese people. Hence, the increasingly persistent demands are made in Japan that the U.S. bases, a source of real threat to peace and security in the Far East and all over the world, be dismantled.

CPSU WORKERS VISIT DPRK, RECEIVED BY KWP'S KIM HWAN

LD281343 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A CPSU party workers delegation led by B.S. Semenov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Chemical Industry Section, visited the DPRK 17 through 25 September in accordance with the plan for interparty relations between the CPSU and the Korean Workers Party [KWP]. They learned of the experience of the KWP's work to guide the development of the chemical industry.

The delegation was received by Kim Kwan, member of the Political Committee and secretary of the KWP Central Committee.

AFGHAN MINISTRY ANNOUNCES SEIZURE OF ARMS, AMMUNITION

LD281817 Moscow TASS in English 1804 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, September 28, TASS--The progressive reforms, carried out in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, infuriate the counter-revolutionary elements from among the former landlords, feudals and other exploiters, deprived of their privileges. The counter-revolutionary gangs, armed and trained outside Afghanistan, are endeavouring to terrorize the population by pillaging and murdering civilians. However, the working people of Afghanistan, shoulder to shoulder with the People's Armed Forces, are beating off the piratic attacks. A TASS correspondent was told at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan that successful operations to wipe out the armed gangs were carried out in Paktia, Nangarhar, Ghazni and Badakhshan provinces in the east of the country. Confiscated from the bandits were large quantities of arms and ammunition.

Addressing representatives of several tribes in Paktia Province, H. Amin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, said: Our working people, who are building a new society, are at the same time compelled to wage an armed struggle against the plots of external and internal enemies. The flunkeys of imperialism and international reaction cannot stop the process of Afghanistan's progressive development. The Afghan people are fully resolved to uphold their achievements and to ensure their homeland's prosperity.

AFGHAN ORGANIZATION FOR DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION ORGANIZED

Both Party, Non-Pary Included

LD281842 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] [No dateline as received] Preparations to set up a National Organization for the Defence of the Revolution (NODOR) have ended in Afghanistan. A TASS correspondent was told by S. Piroz, member of the committee for NODOR's organization, that the new body will include representatives of all the public organizations of the country, both members of the party and non-members. A constituent congress of the organization will take place early this October. It will be attended by more than 500 delegates.

S. Piroz said that the organization will play an important role in rallying together the population of the country to uphold the gains of the April revolution in Afghanistan, to raise the social awareness of the people, and to develop the national economy. The new organization is called upon to explain the goals and tasks of the policy pursued by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, to popularize the existing achievements in the economic and cultural life of the country. After the NODOR congress and election of its governing and executive organs, work will be started to set up NODOR committees in all the areas of the country.

Goals of NODOR

LD300130 Moscow in Pashto to Afghanistan 1430 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from Kabul on final arrangements for the formation of the National Organization for the Defence of the Revolution in Afghanistan. Piroz, a member of the new convening commission, reported to the TASS correspondent that representatives of the country's social circles, including party and non-party members, will be included in this organization. At the beginning of this October, the convening commission of this organization will be organized. More than 500 representatives will take part in this congress.

Piroz said that the organization for the defense of the revolution will play an important role in the success of the aims of SAWR revolution, in the unity of the citizens, in enhancing the social awareness of the people and in advancing national economic affairs. This organization will disseminate the political aims of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and will give publicity to the successes which have been achieved in the country's cultural and economic life.

The National Organization for the Defense of the Revolution after its congress and the election of its leaders and executive organs will start work by establishing local committees in all parts of the country. As the TASS correspondent reports from Kabul, the progressive changes that have been accomplished in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are viewed with hatred by the counterrevolutionary elements, former landlords, feudalists and other exploiters who have been deprived of their privileges.

Raids by counterrevolutionary elements who are equipped with foreign arms and trained to loot and kill civilians are trying to frighten the people. But the toilers of Afthanistan, who are united with the Khalqi Army, are acting together in repulsing attacks by the looters. In the Ministry of the Interior of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan the TASS reporter was informed that in the provinces of Paktia, Nangarhar, Ghazni and Badakhshan successful operations have been completed to eliminate attacks by the armed looters. A large number of arms and war material have been captured from the looters.

Hafizollah Amin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afthanistan and prime minister, in a speech before some of the tribal representatives of Paktia, said that our toiling people, who are building a new society, are compelled in the face of external and internal conspiracies to launch a united armed attack. The flatterers of imperialism and international reaction will not succeed in blocking the progressive promise of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Afghan people are determined to protect their successes and realize progress in their country.

PROREVOLUTION MASS RALLY IN KABUL REPORTED

LD302000 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, September 30, TASS--A mass meeting was held in the Afghan capital in s support of the revolutionary gains of the Afghan people. Tens of thousands of workers, office workers, peasants, representatives of intelligentsia and students marched along the streets of Kabul with red banners and slogans reading: "Long Live the Working People of Afghanistan!" "Long Live the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan!" "Let the Peace in the World Strengthen!" "Death to the Enemies of the Afghan Working People!"

The demonstration participants gathered at one of the central squares of Kabul where a meeting was held of many thousands of people. Speaking at the meeting, Deputy Secretary of the city organization of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Golnavas stressed that all the measures implemented in the country under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party are in the interests of the working people.

The enemies of the April revolution are hatching schemes against the young democratic republic, prominent Afghan journalist, chief editor of the newspaper, Anis M. Wafakish, said in his statement. He resolutely condemned imperialism, international and internal reaction which is trying to bring to naught the accomplishments of the Afghan people.

Deputy minister of information and culture of Afghanistan, the well-known Afghan poet Ali Gol Paivand called on all the working people of the republic to spare no efforts for the attainment of the great aims of the April revolution.

KNUFNS PARTY CONGRESS HELD IN PHNOM PENH

Congress Opens

LD291005 Moscow TASS in English 0729 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Phonm Penh, September 29, TASS--The second congress of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation has opened here today. A political report has been delivered by Chairman of the KNUFNS CC, Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Heng Samrin.

The delegates to the congress will sum up the results of the work done for normalising life in the country and liquidating the hard consequences of the genocide policy pursued by the Pol Pot-Ieng clique. The congress will also outline tasks in the fields of home and foreign policy, socio-economic and cultural development of the country.

Heng Samrin Speech

LD301424 Moscow TASS in English 1211 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Phonm Penh, September 30, TASS--The second congress of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation (KNUFNS) is going on here. When delivering a report, Heng Samrin, chairman of the KNUFNS Central Committee, chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, pointed to the historic importance of the establishment of the United Front which rallied all revolutionary and patriotic forces of Kampuchea for the struggle against the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary anti-popular reactionary regime fostered by Beijing expansionists.

Since the historic victory in the January of 1979, the speaker emphasized, the People's Republic of Kampuchea has made considerable strides in the military, political, economic, and cultural fields.

Defeat was inflicted on the remains of the Pol Pot army in the country's north western, south western, and north eastern areas. About 50,000 Pol Pot bandits were destroyed, and millions of people liberated.

State power bodies have been set up everywhere in the country. The tark of organizational consolidation of the public organizations expressing the interests of all sections of population is being successfully accomplished.

The Pol Pot-Ieng Sary anti-popular clique razed the country's economy. Efforts are being made to revive economic life in Kampuchea and to provide population with food.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea, Heng Samrin said, makes an active contribution to the strengthening of peace and security in South East Asia. Friendship and cooperation with Vietnam and Laos grow stronger. Kampuchea's international positions have become stronger due to the support by the countries of the socialist community. Kampuchea has been recognized already by 31 states and national liberation movements.

Speaking at the congress, member of the Central Committee of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Hun Sen stressed that Beijing had used the corrupt clique of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary to transform Kampuchea into a testing ground for implementing its reactionary doctrines. At present, he stressed, the Chinese authorities are trying to put together the remnants of the routed reactionary forces in order to prevent the construction of a peaceful life in Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos.

Hun Sen said that despite the opposition the Beijing expansionists and imperialist forces the authority and prestige of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is steadily increasing in international affairs.

The congress delegates unanimously approved the provisional charter of the front. The document says that the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea is a mass-affiliation organization of the Kampuchean people which opposes the Pol Pot and Ieng Sary clique, imperialist and reactionaries of all kinds. It fights for the protection of independence, for national salvation, for building a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea which is following the path of socialism. It makes an active contribution to the consolidation of peace and stability in South East Asia and the whole world.

Congress Concludes

LD301726 Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, September 30, TASS--The second congress of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea has completed its deliberations here today. Over 500 delegates pepresenting all the strata of the Kampuchean population had taken stock of the activities of the front and of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea in eliminating the dire consequences of the rule of the bloody Pol Pot dictatorship. They discussed the tasks of a further normalization of the life of the people in the republic and the aspects of political and socio-economic development.

The congress unanimously approved the provisional charter of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea. It also elected a new Central Committee of the front including 35 people. Heng Samrin has been re-elected chariman of the front's Central Committee and Ios Por was elected its general secretary.

KAMPUCHEAN MESSAGE SUPPORTS VIETNAMESE STRUGGLE

LD281838 Moscow TASS in English 1455 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, September 28, TASS--The Kampuchean people is fully resolved to strengthen its militant solidarity and all-round cooperation with the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Laos in the name of peace and stabiltiy in Southeast Asia and the general peace. The People's Republic of Kampuchea unreservedly supports the Vietnamese people's just struggle in defence of its independence and peaceful creative labour. This is said in a message from the general secretary of the Central Committee of the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea, chairman of the Kampuchean Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee Roh Samaya, to the Vietnamese Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The people of Kampuchea, the document underlines, condemns Beijing's hegemonic policy and demands, together with progressive peoples of the world, that China immediately end provocations on the SRV border and strictly respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam and other countries of Indochina.

LE DUAN, ZHIVKOV SPEAK AT HANOI RECEPTION

LD301133 Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, September 30, TASS--The Communist Party of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people will tirelessly work to strengthen friendship and solidarity with fraternal socialist countries, with the international communist and working-class movement, said Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. He spoke at a reception given in honour of the Bulgarian party-and-state delegation led by Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, chairman of Bulgaria's Council of State. We emphasize, Le Duan said, that the solidarity, relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union are a reliable guarantee of the Vietnamese people's triumphs in construction and defence of the motherland. He expressed gratitude to the Communist Party and the people of Bulgaria for the support they render to Vietnam.

In a reply speech Todor Zhivkov condemned Beijing's ruling circles which pursue the hegemonistic policy and which unleashed the aggressive war against Vietnam. This policy by Beijing, Todor Zhivkov empahsized, is spearheaded against peace in South East and throughout the world. He expressed deep conviction that the Bulgarian delegation's present visit to the SRV will promote a further all-round strengthening and development of fraternal friendship and identity of views between the communists of Bulgaria and Vietnam.

Talks between the Bulgarian party-and-state delegation and the party and state leaders of Vietnam were held in Hanoi today.

VNA CITED ON PRC BORDER INCURSIONS

LD301316 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, September 30, TASS--Units of Chinese Armed Forces continue making raids on Vietnamese territory in Cao Bang and Hoang Lien Son provinces, the Vietnam News Agency reports.

Thus, on September 23 a company of Chinese soldiers intruded into Vietnam's territory in the area of Trung Khanh district of Cao Bang province and opened fire on peaceful Vietnamese residents. On the next day several tens of Chinese soldiers attacked a Vietnamese border post in Hoang Lien Son Province. In Bat Bat district of the same province, a unit of the armed forces of China intruded far deep into Vietnamese territory. Several Vietnamese peaceful residents and border guards were killed and injured.

Vietnamese army units, the report points out, repulsed the raiders and made them go back where they came from.

VIETNAMESE DENIES PRC CLAIMS TO PARACEL, SPRATLEY ISLANDS

LD281044 Moscow TASS in Enlgish 1032 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, September 28, TASS--The Foreign Ministry of the SRV has made a statement rejecting as absolutely groundless the claims of the Chinese authorities to Paracel islands and the Spratley islands. The claims were made in a statement of the PRC Foreign Ministry one of these days.

The Foreign Ministry of the SRV reaffirms that these islands have been part of Vietnamese territory for many centuries. The actions of any state with the purpose of occupation or an attempt at occupation as well as use of these islands and their shelf are illegal, the Foreign Ministry of the SRV stresses.

LAO PREMIER LEAVES MOSCOW FOR HOME AFTER 'REST'

LD291410 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sept, TASS--Kaysone Phomvihan, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and premier of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, left Moscow for home today after resting in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

GREEK PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW, MET BY KOSYGIN

LD011022 Moscow TASS in English 0956 GMT 1 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 1, TASS--Konstandinos Karamanlis, the prime minister of the Hellenic Republic, arrived in Moscow today for an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. At the airport decked out with the state flags of the two countries, the guest was met by Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Andrey Gromyko, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, Petr Demichev, minister of culture of the USSR, and by other officials.

SEPTEMBER SESSION OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ENDS

LD291556 Moscow TASS in English 2205 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Paris, September 28, TASS--TASS correspondent Vadim Yesipovixh reports: The September session of the European Parliament ended its work in the French city of Strasbourg. For five days 410 deputies, elected in Common Market countries, discussed some aspects of the political and economic life of "Minor Europe." Nevertheless, as admitted by the president of the European Parliament, the session passed over in silence such major problems as unemployment, the energy crisis, and environmental protection. Instead of proposals aimed at promoting the cause of detente and disarmament in Europe, the session debated the question of joint programs for the production and deliveries of armaments, programs which lead to the revival of the idea of "European Army" and may open access to nuclear weapons for the FRG. The question was imposed on the session contrary to the resolute resistance of the French communists and some other delegates. At the same time irreconcilable contradictions between Common-Market partners vividly manifested themselves in the European Parliament meetings. The stormy debate on economic problems, particularly on questions of the EEC agricultural policy, never led to results acceptable to all participants. The session in Strasbourg also confirmed the legitimacy of apprehensions of the democratic public that "supranational" functions can be given to the European Parliament for this purpose initiated a proposal on working out an agreement considerably expanding the powers of the West European Assembly to the detriment of the rights of national parliaments. The discussion of the proposal as well as some other items, the budget for 1980, in particular, was postponed till subsequent sessions of the European Parliament.

USSR REFUSES TO INVESTIGATE WALLENGERG CASE

LD282030 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1700 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] According to Soviet information, Raoul Wallenberg died in 1947 and there is nothing more to say about his fate. This is written by the Soviet leader Aleksey Kosygin in a letter answering Prime Minister Ola Ullsten's inquiry about Wallenberg. Ullsten demanded a month ago that the Soviet authorities should carry out an investigation because of the new information which had come to light concerning Wallenberg's fate. It was maintained, inter alia, that he was alive in the 1970's and was then in a hospital in the Soviet Union. Now the Soviet authorities say that Wallenberg died in 1945. Prime Minister Ola Ullsten commented that he is convinced that the whole truth is not yet known concerning Wallenberg's disappearance. It is deplorable that the Soviet authorities have not been willing to continue the investigations, Ullsten said

LAPIN COMMENTARY VIEWS IMPLICATIONS OF LEBANESE CRISIS

LD291807 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[Valentin Lapin commentary]

[Text] Much is being said and written about Lebanon as the country which is indeed the hottest spot in the Middle East at the moment. This week Israeli Air Force planes provoked a fight with Syrian planes in Lebanese airspace. It's understandable how serious this is. Such clashes and incidents may spark off a big military conflagration, and yet Tel Aviv has declared its planes will keep on intruding into Lebanese airspace. This is a challenge, both to a sovereign Arab country and to the whole Arab world.

The entire Middle East is being placed on the brink of another conflict. The situation is extremely serious. Washington admits this, too, yet not in a way so as to have its brazen ally stop acting like that, but in order to take advantage of the red-hot situation. It's from this angle that one should view the so-called pacification plan for Lebanon which America has produced.

According to reports in the press, the idea is to discuss the situation in Lebanon with the participation of Israel and its agents, the south Lebanese separatists, as full-powered interested sides. The whole thing is pictured in such a way that allegedly it's not Israel or the separatists but someone else who is guilty of the destruction and mass killings of civilians in Lebanon. A number of observers have already named the Washington plan as the Lebanese Camp David. More efforts are being made to force the Arabs to bow their heads to Israel and finally join the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal. The aggressive actions by Israel and the diplomatic maneuvers of the United States may be pictured as coordinated steps to reach this objective.

At the same time, to the accompaniment of a propaganda noise about the American pacification plan for Lebanon, Israel is forcing annexation of the occupied Palestinian lands. The annexation is now in the form of purchasing land from the Arabs by Israelis. Autonomy for the Palestinians does not apply to land, reiterated the Israeli negotiator at the latest round of talks with Egypt in Alexandria. Although the Egyptian negotiator expressed his indignation out loud, the talks on the so-called autonomy still continue.

Speaking at the current UN General Assembly session, the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko said that the separate deal between Egypt and Israel leads to the stockpiling of much more combustible materials that can cause another explosion in the Middle East. The events in Lebanon confirm that this estimate is right. The Middle East needs not Camp Davids, not separate peace treaties which conceal military alliances, but a comprehensive settlement. The way to such a settlement lies through the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied lands, through insuring the Palestinian people the right to self-determination and independence, through granting all peoples in the region the right to a secure existence.

U.S. Proposals Denounced

LD292238 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[From "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] Washington is trying to design its policy in order to render all-round aid to Israel in its aggresson against the Arabs, introducing the so-called "special initiatives to settle the situation in Lebanon." Vance, the U.S. secretary of state, discussed his proposals on the question with some Arab representatives in New York. Cairo decided to satisfy its big partner in the Camp David accords. It hastened to present the diplomatic intentions of the of the U.S. administration as being a plan for a settlement in south Lebanon.

But Lebanon, the PLO and a number of Arab states recognized the danger of the United States' intentions. Those intentions are considered to be very dangerous to Lebanon as well as to the just cause of the Palestinian people.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee considers that the United States intends to impose a Lebanese Camp David on the Arabs. The American proposals aim first and foremost at eliminating the presence of the Palestinians in Lebanon, and forcing the evacuation of the Syrian forces which constitute the nucleus of the Arab deterrent forces in Lebanon.

Thus Washington wants Lebanon to be face to face with the Israeli aggressors and their allies, the Lebanese isolationists. All these measures are being taken in order to facilitate the Israeli plans to divide the Lebanese state, turning two small Lebanese states into its satellites.

Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general, is now making a tour of some Arab countries to discuss with their leaders the measures that should be implemented towards an Arab solution of the conflict in Lebanon. This question should be discussed by the Arab summit conference which will take place in November. Chedli Klibi considers that the American proposals on Lebanon are not acceptable to the Arabs.

COMMENTATOR ON U.S. 'CONNIVANCE' WITH ISRAEL

LD282349 Moscow TASS in English 1946 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 28, TASS--TASS commentator Natalya Zinovyeva writes:

The latest revelations by Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan once again compelled a State Department spokesman to twist and deny. This time, addressing on Wednesday the "Council on Foreign Relations," an organization in New York, Dayan stated that through the presence of American civilian technicians in Sinai, the administration "is providing Israel with the shield of the United States". He added that if anybody would think about attacking Israel this will be tantamount to attacking the United States, and this will make them think twice.

Dayan's statement indicates the complete confidence of the top rulers in Tel Aviv that Washington's support is immutable. The Israelis just dismiss the timid reproaches and very restrained criticism which comes time from time from official U.S. figures following particularly gross violations of international norms by Tel Aviv.

The latest two decades give ample evidence of Israel's aggressive actions. Leaning on U.S. support, Israel captured and occupied Arab lands in the 1967 war. On the U.S. initiative and with its support Israel concluded a separate deal with Egypt, (?which) put new obstacles in the way of a genuine peace settlement in the Middle East. Supported by the U.S. and putting in action the latest American weapons, Israel is making savage raids on south Lebanon and is sowing death among the civil population, destroying town and villages of that sovereign country.

Leaning on U.S. support and with U.S. blessing, Israel grossly tramples on the Palestine Arab people's legitimate right to self-determination and its own statehood. The plan for granting the Palestinians on the West Bank and the Gaza sector limited to self-rule is an insult to the Palestine people, which has been suffering for three decades from the pressure of the occupationists. The plan, for decency's sake called "administrative autonomy," is being discussed by Israel and Egypt with the active participation of the U.S., behind the Palestine people and in violation of well known U.N. resolutions.

Connivance with the aggressor and direct support for it by the U.S.--financial, economic and, mainly, military--have led in 1967 to Tel Aviv's aggressive actions. The Camp David deal envisaging the further increase of U.S. all-round aid to Israel and the buildup of its military potential is fraught with equally dangerous consequences.

MESSAGE OF AYATOLLAH SHIRAZI SCORED

LD282252 Moscow TASS in English 2115 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

["In the Role of Instigator"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, September 26, TASS--TASS commentator Konstantin Dudorev writes:

One of Iran's religious leaders Ayatollah Shirazi decided to take upon himself the role of a "defender" of the Afghan people.

If it were a matter of supporting Democratic Afghanistan, such an initiative could be welcomed. However, his message to the "embattled Muslim people of Afghanistan" sent by Shirazi and published today by the paper KEYHAN, refers to something quite different. Appealing to the enemies of the Afghan people--to the counterrevolutionary feudal trash--Shirazi calls the Afghans to rise in arms against what he calls "Red social imperialism," and permits himself gross attacks against the Soviet Union.

Such calls cannot but cause amazement. Iranian leaders well know that the anti-feudal and anti-imperialist revolution in Afghanistan is of a truly popular, democratic character. The working people of Afghanistan has gained liberty itself.

As to the policy of the Soviet Union, it builds its relations with Afghanistan, just as with other countries, on the basis of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity. Iranian leaders, proceeding from their own experience of associating with the Soviet Union, can surely confirm this. If the Afghan people needs aid, it is not for struggle against "Soviet despotism," as Shirazi maintains, but against its main enemies--reactionaries, imperialism and its agents--who, as Iranian leading figures have repeatedly stated before, are their main enemies.

Shirazi's attacks will by no means add to his reputation. Such sentiments show that not only he himself is unable to tell friends from enemies, but he is trying to mislead others. It would be much better for Shirazi, who is a member of the "Council of Experts" on preparing the Iranian constitution, to engage in his immediate duties rather than come out with inciting statements to the detriment of the interests of his own country.

IRANIAN CABINET RESHUFFLE REPORTED

New Ministers Announced

LD282258 Moscow TASS in English 2137 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, September 28, TASS--An Iranian Government reshuffle was announced in Tehran. Mustafa Chamran, former acting deputy prime minister for the affairs of the revolution, was appointed the minister of national defence. Ali 'Akbar mo'Infar, former minister of state for the affairs of the Planning and Budget Organization, was appointed the head of a newly-founded Ministry of Oil. There are reshuffles in other ministries, too.

IRAN'S REFUSAL TO SUPPORT GULF SECURITY PLAN NOTED

LD291526 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1339 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Vadim Volkov and (Kazbek Basyev)]

[Excerpts] AFP reports that Iran has declined the so-called plan to support security in the Persian Gulf which was put forward by Oman, obviously on instructions from the United States. I would remind you that this plan envisages protecting the Persian Gulf area with troops and units of the United States, Britain, FRG and a number of conservative Arab regimes. In fact, this means the creation of a new aggressive bloc; therefore the majority of countries in the Persian Gulf reject the Oman plan, correctly considering it a screen behind which the plans of primarily U.S. imperialism to impose their dominion over the Arabs are being pushed through.

COMMENTARY SEES POSITIVE SAUDI ATTITUDE TOWARD USSR

LD281608 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Leonid Brezhnev and King Khalid, sovereign of Saudi Arabia, have exchanged cables on the occasion of the 51st anniversary of the establishment of the Central Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The exchange of such cables on important events and national occasions has become over a long period a good tradition in Soviet-Arab relations. The meaning of this tradition transcends mere protocol. This is particularly so if we take into consideration the fact that no official relations exist between the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia. It is worth mentioning that agreement to establish official relations was reached following the establishment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, that is more than 50 years ago. At that time there were diplomatic and commercial representatives in Saudi Arabia. This from the Saudi side was a recognition of the role played by the Arab peoples. The Soviet Union was one of the first countries to recognize the Saudi state at a time of Western attempts to expose it to international isolation and to impose control over it. However, Soviet-Saudi relations did not develop properly after that because of the intrigue hatched by the forces hostile to Soviet-Arab cooperation.

Leading quarters in Saudi Arabia in recent times have been making more and more positive statements regarding the Soviet Union's policy in the Middle East. The Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia Sa'ud al-Faysal, for instance, made such a statement publicly recently. Such statements represent a growth in the recognition of the importance which the Soviet Union ascribes to the just cause of the Arab peoples. It is worth mentioning that the Soviet Union's policy in the Middle East satisfies all personalities in the Arab world with the exception of the capitulationists and compromisers.

At the moment everything seems to point to the fact that Saudi Arabia intends to step up the struggle together with all the Arabs against separate deals in defense of the rights of the Palestinians and other victims of Israeli aggression and expansion. In these circumstances genuine influential allies take on special significance and specific importance. The Soviet Union, through its activities over many years, has proven that it is a genuine ally of the Arabs. It is worthwhile pointing out that the Soviet Union, the supporter of the first independent Arab Saudi state in Arab history, is now considered a resolute supporter of the Palestinian state, the last state to be established and drawn up on the map of the Arab world.

KULIK COMMENTS ON OMAN'S 'DANGEROUS PLAN' FOR HORMUZ

LD281808 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 28, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik, writes:

Countries of the Persian Gulf area rejected with indignation the Omani proposed draft project for the defence of the Hormuz Strait, prompted by the USA. When hatching this project, the Kuwait paper AL-ANBA' wrote, Washington thought to block the Hormuz Strait in order to establish its control not only over oil transport routes but over the states in that area as well. Similar assessments exposing the real neocolonialist goals of this project and the unseemly role of its "sponsor," shouldered by the Sultan of Oman, appeared in the papers of practically all Arab countries. A number of leading Muslim politicians also came out against Oman's dangerous plans.

But Egypt, true to its anti-Arab policy, reserved "its own opinion" on this matter, having learnt of Sultan Qabus' failure to prevail upon his neighbours and draw them to his side. The A.R.E. Vice President Mubarak, only recently back from Washington, hastened to Oman with 2-day visit. The AL-AKHBAR reports today that Mubarak, when in Oman, voiced Egypt's full support for the Omani plan.

Why is Cairo again out of step with other Arab states?

Firstly, the expression of such support provides Cairo with an opportunity to pledge its loyal feelings for Washington once again.

Egypt comes out for the Omani project not out of any concern for the "security" of the Strait of Hormuz, or for the sovereignty and independence of Persian Gulf countries, but because As-Sadat's policy serves American imperialism to the detriment of the interests of Arab people, undermining their unity.

Secondly, because by claiming a "special" role in the Middle East, Egypt under As-Sadat acts ever more frequently in the role of a kind of mini-imperialist power in the Arab world. But the A.R.E. intrudes in the internal affairs of the region's countries whenever it has a chance to prop up internal reaction or strike a blow at the forces of the national-liberation movement. On the western flank of this mini-imperialist policy is West Sahara, where Egypt is arming forces opposing the POLISARIO, and on the eastern flank is Oman.

As it follows from Mubarak's statements, Egypt has no objection to taking part in the occupation of this region's countries together with the United States and other Western initiators of the project for the defence of the Hormuz Strait.

One can hardly fail to agree with the opinion of the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM which writes that precisely those countries come out in support of the Omani initiative which are building up tension themselves and hatching plots in the Persian Gulf. Having noted that the real threat to the region comes only from U.S. accomplices and world imperialism, the paper notes at the same time the peace-loving character of the Soviet Union's foreign policy in the Persian Gulf area. It is well known, writes the AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, that the USSR is interested in ensuring lasting peace in this area.

NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS' GROWING IN CENTRAL AMERICA

LD292200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 29 Sep 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Lukyanov']

[Text] One special aspect of the present session of the UN General Assembly is that its participants include delegations from a number of countries in which popular revolutions have taken place this year. At the same time, in other states still under the yoke of dictatorial regimes the national liberation and anti-imperialist movement is growing. Thus, according to reports from El Salvador and Guatemala, in those Central American countries there has recently been an upsurge of people's demonstrations against the reactionary regimes. In Guatemala, for instance, partisans attacked a military airfield and destroyed 26 aircraft. In El Salvador, antigovernment demonstrations are continuing. In clashes between demonstrators and police, 20 people have perished in 2 weeks. What has caused this upsurge of the people's struggle against the military regimes in Central America? I asked Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, our correspondent for the Caribbean countries, to answer this question.

[Lavrentyev] To all appearances, the domino effect is occurring in Central America. The victory of the Nicaraguan people over dictatorship has inspired the national liberation movements in the neighboring countries of El Salvador and Guatemala with new force. The political situation there now recalls the situation in Nicaragua under the dictator Somoza: social inequality maintained by force of arms, and a deep gulf between a handful of rich people and the people proper. In El Salvador, 80 percent of the national wealth is concentrated in the hands of 20 families. So there is plenty of reason for discontent. There is a considerable struggle against injustice going on there.

[Question] Have the democratic forces yet gained any particular successes in opposing the repressive regimes in these countries?

[Answer] It would be somewhat premature at present to speak of successes. The national liberation movement in Guatemala and to a still greater degree in El Salvador are now in a process of expanding their social base, in rallying all parties and organizations which consider a military dictatorship to be a brake in solving urgent national problems. But political observers are united in the view that while Gen H. Umberto Romero rules in El Salvador and Gen Lucas Garcia in Guatemala, antigovernment demonstrations there are inevitable.

[Question] The United States, as is known, in recent decades has actively supported these military and police dictatorships with the aim of preserving, with their assistance, its political and economic positions in the area. How is U.S. diplomacy behaving in Central America in the present conditions?

[Answer] Official Washington understands that it is losing control at a catastrophic rate in a region which, under the name of the banana empire, was virtually an American province. The United States' reliance on dictatorial regimes, as events in Nicaragua showed, does not bring the desired results. On the other hand, support for antigovernment movements has the inherent danger that one fine moment they might slip out of control and overstep the bounds within which Washington would like to keep them. So the United States is now conducting a very ambiguous policy in these countries. It is continuing to support the military regime, but at the same time is feeling out the influential forces among the moderate politicians, who might be able to take power into their hands in a crisis.

NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT ACTS AGAINST ILLITERACY; CUBA HELPS

LD262122 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 26 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Managua, September 26, TASS--An agreement on cooperation between the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education and the UNESCO as well as the U.N. Development Program was signed here. The agreement provides for wide scientific and technical cooperation and for international organizations' assistance to Nicaragua in various spheres of public education.

As is known, mass illiterary of population is one of the most horrible legacies left by the criminal regime of Somoza. About 70 per cent of Nicaraguans cannot read or write and have never had an opportunity to attend schools. The level of illiteracy is particularly high in rural areas. Over there, it reaches 90 per cent.

Nicaragua's Government of National Reconstruction mapped out and started implementing an extensive program to eliminate unemployment and set up a public education system. Much assistance to Nicaragua in this respect is being rendered by a number of countries: Cuba and Venezuela among them. The first group of Cuban teachers is to arrive here soon. They will work in remote areas of Nicaragua. For its parts, Venezuela, showing fraternal solidarity with the Nicaraguan people, sent a large batch of copy books, manuals, and other school things.

PANAMANIAN MINISTER SPEAKS ON CANAL PACT, TIES WITH USSR

LD301652 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Panama City, September 30, TASS--In the struggle to eliminate the colonial enclave of the United States in the Panama Canal Zone, the people and the Government of Panama have always relied on the resolute support from the peace movement, said Carlos Ozores, Panama's foreign minister, in an interview with TASS correspondents. He expressed his profound satisfaction over the fact that the Panamanian capital is now hosting a session of the Bureau of the Presidium of the World Peace Council. Solidarity of the forces fighting for the peace in the world with the people of Panama, the minister said, will be needed by us in the future in connection with the fact that the U.S. Congress has adopted a number of amendments and reservations violating the spirit and letter of the treaties on the Panama Canal.

The Panamanian foreign minister described the amendments as encroaching on the dignity of the Panamanians. He expressed confidence that the Panamanian people will be victorious in its struggle to eliminate these amendments.

The minister noted that the people of Panama feel great respect and love for the people of the Soviet Union which has always demonstrated its solidarity with the struggle of the Panamanian people for its territorial integrity and independence.

Despite the great geographical distance separating our two countries, Carlos Ozores stressed, our peoples are linked with ties of friendship and unity in the struggle for peace, sovereignty and the rights of nations to self-determination. We wish, the minister said, to maintain with the Soviet Union most cordial relations and all-round trade and cultural relations.

The Soviet people is a great people and I am positive that the USSR and Panama will actively work together for peace and justice in the world.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 27-30 SEPTEMBER

LD290320/LD010700 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 27, 28, 29 and 30 September. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

27 September

In Uzbekistan a record harvest of corn for grain has been achieved. Farms have threshed 1 million tons, and the average yield has been 74 quintals per hectare. (0100 GMT)

In Kazakhstan grain harvesting has begun on the 25th and last million hectares. Despite bad weather, machine operators are threshing windrows on 400,000-500,000 hectares per day on the average; gathering them has begun on the 20th million hectares. (0200 GMT)

In Kurganskaya Oblast farmers in Almenevskiy Rayon are the first to fulfill their year plan for grain sales to the state, with delivery of 55,000 tons. The oblast as a whole so far has delivered over 600,000 tons of grain to the state. (0600 GMT)

28 September

Azerbaijan has fulfilled its socialist pledges for cotton sale to the state. More than 600,000 tons of raw cotton have been delivered to procurement points. The republic intends to sell in excess of plan another 150,000 tons. (1400 GMT)

In Tselinogradskaya Oblast grain threshing has started on the last million hectares. During the past week swathes were gathered on more than 600,000 hectares. (1750 GMT)

In Saratovskaya Oblast 20,000 hectares of sugarbeets have been dug. Yields are higher than last year, the highest being 250 quintals per hectare. More than 100,000 tons of first-class beets have been sold to the state (1750 GMT)

29 September

In Altayskiy Kray grain reaping has been completed. About 20,000 units are now engaged in threshing windrows on the final the fifth million hectare. (0900 GMT)

30 September

In Uzbekistan the mowing of sown and natural grasses is progressing at a good rate. Farms have procured 6.5 million tons of fodder to date. This is 500,000 tons more than at the same time last year. (0100 GMT)

In Turgayskaya Oblast, Kazakhstan, the plan for grain sales to the state was fulfilled today. Some 85 million puds of grain has been delivered to procurement centers. (0900 GMT)

In Pavlodarskaya Oblast grain reaping has been completed. So far 1 million tons of grain have been delivered to state granaries. (1200 GMT)

Harvesting of corn for grain has begun in the southern regions of the European part of the country, and in Central Asia the harvest is being completed. In Kazakhstan, 75 quintals per hectare has been the average for the entire area of more than 150,000 hectares. In Kashkadarinskaya Oblast the figure is 85.5 quintals per hectare.

LAYING-IN WINTER FODDER SUPPLIES PROGRESSES

LD281008 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD

[Text] The laying in of fodder is continuing in the farms of the country. As the USSR Central Statistical Administration reported on 24 September, sown and natural grasses were cut over more than 76 million hectares. In kolkhozes and sovkhozes more than 51 million tonnes of hay has been laid in, almost 54 million tonnes of haylage and 124 million tonnes of silage. Farms in Kazakhstan, Modavia and Armenia have fulfilled the plan for laying in hay.

HAY PROCUREMENT PLANS OVERFULFILLED IN SOME AREAS

LD281015 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD

[Summary] The procurement of fodder for public livestock is progressing. The USSR Central Statistical Administration today gave a general report on the work. Commenting on the data issued by the statisticians, the head of the Main Administration of Fodders, Meadows and Pastures of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, Comrade (Aletov), noted that over 105 million tons of hay and haylage has been stored at kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The plan for procurement of hay has been overfulfilled in Kazakhstan, Moldavia and Armenia. In eight union republic more haylage has been stored than was planned. Mass siloing is now in progress at farms. Everywhere storing of root crops for fodder has been started. Beet and potato crops are also being stored for fodder. In southern rayons the harvest of fodder crops on fields under secondary sown crops has ripened on an area of over 4 million hectares.

LIVESTOCK SPECIALIST VIEWS PROBLEMS IN FODDER PROCUREMENT

LD010743 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 Sep 79 p 1 LD

[Agricultural review by livestock specialist M. Glinka: "Livestock Units Facing Winter Tasks"]

[Text] The main condition for the successful wintering of livestock, which is not far off now, is to have sufficient high-grade fodder. The USSR Central Statistical Administration reported that by 17 September the country's kolkhozes, sovkhozes and interfarm enterprises had procured 50.6 million tons of hay out of a planned 67.1 million tons. Thus the plan is still only 75 percent fulfilled. Some 53.3 million tons (86 percent) of cured hay and 57 million tons (51 percent) of straw, chaff and other coarse fodder have been procured. The country's farms plan to procure more than 250 million tons of silage--the main winter feed in dairy units. Almost 218 million tons of silage matter have already been laid in, and 100 million tons of finished succulent fodder have been produced. Some 5,669,000 tons of grass meal, green chop, pellets and briquettes (78 percent) have been produced. The lifting of fodder root crops has begun; some 1,678,000 tons have been procured.

Farms in Kazakhstan, Moldavia and Armenia have fulfilled their hay procurement plant. Only 60 percent of the planned amount of hay has been procured in Latvia. It is important that fodder be transported to winter pastures in transhumence farming regions.

This work is proceeding too slowly, however: In Kazakhstan only 2.07 million out of a planned 15.5 million tons of hay have been transported to winter quarters and in Kirgizia the amounts are 206,000 tons and 1.2 million tons respectively. In both republics these indicators are below last year's.

In the RSFSR the hay procurement plan has been fulfilled by 5 out of the 70 krays, oblasts and autonomous republics; they are Kurganskaya, Chelyabinskaya, Kemerovskaya and Omskaya oblasts and Khabarovskiy Kray.

An alarming situation has developed in Orlovskaya, Tambovskaya and Ulyanovskaya oblasts and in the Mordovskaya and Chuvashskaya autonomous republics, where less than one-third of the amount of coarse fodder required has been procured.

Machine operators in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kirgizia, Tadzhikistan, Armenia, Turkmenia and Estonia have fulfilled their targets for laying in cured hay. Procurement of this fodder is lowest--69 percent of the planned amount--in the Ukraine and in Lithuania. In the RSFSR cured hay procurement plans have been substantially overfulfilled in Altayskiy and Khabarovskiy krays, the Bashkirskaya and Dagestanskaya autonomous republics and in Kuybyseveskaya, Orenburgskaya, Omskaya and a number of other oblasts. By contrast, only 38 percent of the planned amount of cured hay has been procured in Ryazanskaya Oblast, while in Tulskaya, Belgorodskaya, Tambovskaya and Penzenskaya oblasts the percentages are 34, 39, 25 and 20 respectively.

The situation is serious, and difficult to remedy because there is a lack of substantial stocks of the raw material for making cured hay. It is therefore more important than ever to procure more of the other types of fodder to offset the lack of nutrients in the rations. This applies to silage in particular. Silaging enables good fodder to be prepared not only from crops especially grown for this purpose but also from much of the waste matter from crop cultivation and vegetable growing. The tops of sugar and fodder beet and other root crops, truck gardening waste, and unmarketable melons potatoes must all be scrupulously collected and put into silage trenches.

The silage procurement rate is increasing. In the week under review 5,986,000 tons more silage were produced than in the preceding week. However, this rate is still lower than last year's. Belorussian farms (83 percent) lead the way in the fulfillment of silage procurement plans. In the Moldavian SSR, where silaging has only just begun, 16 percent of the target figure has been procured. Even so, slightly more than twice as much silage matter has been procured there than by this time last year. Silaging rates are down on last year in Uzbekistan (98 percent), Kirgizia (87), Tadzhikistan (96) and Turkmenia (92). In the RSFSR as a whole the amount of silage matter laid in is 83 percent of last year's figure, and 38 percent of the planned total of finished silage has so far been procured. Farms in Arkhangelskaya, Vologodskaya, Orlovskaya and Ulyanovskaya oblasts are nearer to target completion thatn any others in the RSFSR. Those lagging behind are Astrakhanskaya, Kurganskaya, Sverdlovskaya, Kemerovskaya, Omskaya and Tyumenskaya oblasts and Primorskiy and Khabarovskiy krays, where much less silage matter has been laid in than last year and only 5-13 percent of the planned total of finished silage has been produced.

Full use is not being made everywhere of such reserves for increasing fodder stocks as waste matter from the grainfields.

In the country as a whole 70.7 million hectares have been cleared of straw--76 percent of the threshed area. Machine operators in the Ukraine and in Moldavia have cleared the fields almost entirely of straw. At the same time, coarse fodder has still to be cleared from 56 percent of the area in the Kazakh SSR. They are behind schedule with this important work in Yaroslavskaya, Astrakhanskaya, Kurganskaya and Novosibirskaya oblasts, where only 35-67 percent of the area has been cleared of straw, while in Omskaya Oblast and the Buryatskaya ASSR no more than four-fifths of the threshed area has been cleared of straw.

In the last few days vitamin meal units have been shut down in a number of places. However, progressive farms' experience has shown that even at this time of the fall it is possible to find large amounts of raw material for making nutritious pellets. Farms in Kharkovskaya, Lvovskaya and Ternopolskaya oblasts are successfully making "green concentrates" out of beet tops. In Rostovskaya Oblast valuable pellets are being made by feeding sunflower stalks and heads through vitamin meal units. Conifer twigs are also a good raw material for making additional vitamin-rich fodder. All these reserves must be tapped.

Winter is close at hand, and only a matter of days remain in which to increase fodder stocks in every possible way and to insure that livestock is well provided for in the winter months. It is important that efforts do not relax for a single day in fodder procurement work.

ACTION TAKEN TO SPEED UP DELIVERY OF TRACTOR-TRAILERS

LD280958 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD

[Text] Problems in completing grain reaping and the harvesting of late crops were debated today at a regular session of the all-union operational staff for material and technical supplies to agriculture. It was noted that in the main the industrial enterprises have been coping successfully with the plan and additional tasks in deliveries of new machines and spare parts to kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

At the same time, however, some enterprises continue to fall systematically short of their commitments to the workers in agriculture. They include the Krasnoyarsk combine factory, the Odessapochvomash, the Berdyansk association for reaper building, the Belinskselmash and the Krasnaya Zvezda.

The operational staff sharply criticized some enterprises of the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production and of the Ministry of Chemical Industry. The staff adopted emergency measures to speed up deliveries of tractor-trailers, very necessary at present to carry beets, cotton and other late crops.

GRAIN HARVESTING NEARING COMPLETION; DELAYS IN VIRGIN LANDS

LD280940 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 27 Sep 79 LD

[Summary] The grain harvest in the USSR is nearly completed, with some 90 percent of the crops already mowed, 93 percent of which has been threshed so far. However, in several regions of the Kazakhstan virgin lands and Siberia, quite a lot of grain is still lying in windrows, especially in Omskskaya, Kokchetavskaya and neighboring oblasts. But the oblasts here have completed about 80 percent of their grain delivery plans.

The harvest considerably exceeds the capacity of procuring facilities, and special attention must now be paid to the efficient work of railway and road transport, which is still unsatisfactory. Another problem is bringing in the harvest is the usual shortage of spare parts for combines. What spares there are, often are of very low quality.

The harvest in Altayskiy Kray has been completed but not all grain has been threshed; grain brought in from 4.2 million hectares has been threshed to date. Over 2 million tonnes of grain is already in silos and 50,000-70,000 tonnes more is being delivered daily. There is a shortage of railway rolling stock which causes aggravating delays in the transportation of grain, beets, potatoes and vegetables.

ALMA-ATA REPORTS PROGRESS IN FODDER HARVESTING

AU271220 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1512 GMT 26 Sep 79 AU

[Text] Kazakhstan's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have mown 2.2 million hectares of corn for silage and green fodder, or 92 percent of the sown total. Two more oblasts, Kustanayskaya and Tselinogradskaya have completed mowing operations in all cornfields which are the most extensive in Kazakhstan. On the last thousands of hectares corn is being mown for silage in Kokchetavskaya, Pavlodarskaya, Turgayskaya and Chimkentskaya oblasts. The republic has already stored 23.5 million tons of silage and has obtained 11 million tons of ready [word indistinct], or 53 percent of the target. The first place in silaging belongs to the farmers of the Irtysh valley in Semipalatisnskaya Oblast, which have fulfilled the plan 131 percent. Above-plan silaging is continuing in Karagandinskaya Oblast. The farms of the lower Syr-Darya region are about to complete the plan for silaging. In the Irtysh Valley, Pavlodarskaya Oblast, the pace of silaging has recently significantly hastened.

HARVEST IN KAZAKH VIRGIN LANDS NEARING COMPLETION

AU281926 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1509 GMT 28 Sep 79 AU

[Summary] "In Kazakhstan's virgin land oblasts, harvest operations have begun on the last million hectares. The unstable weather has not slowed down the pace of work. Last week Tselinogradskaya Oblast farms collected swaths on more than 600,000 hectares." Every second team of machine operators is exceeding shift targets by 50 percent. Grain, mainly strong-variety wheat, is being delivered to granaries around the clock. All rayons in the oblast are selling grain in excess of the plan.

ALTAY HARVEST JEOPARDIZED BY SHORTAGE OF RAIL FREIGHTCARS

LD290926 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 28 Sep 79 LD

[Summary] Harvest work is drawing to a close in the Altay. V.I. Ovchinnikov, the local kraykom secretary is at the microphone:

So far 90 percent of the entire crop has been threshed. Within the next 3 to 5 days the combine harvesters will leave the fields. However, as is known, the last few hectares are the most difficult. The kraykom is doing all in its power to maintain the pace of harvest work which is progressing just as during the first few days of the harvest.

The Siberian autumn is not known for spoiling agricultural workers with good weather. Utilization of all accumulated experience and the use not only of every suitable day, but of every hour, have made it possible practically to complete the harvest and to eliminate losses during harvest work. The Ipatovskiy method was put to very widespread use in the Altay this year.

"So far over 2 million tons of grain have been delivered to elevators in the kray. Unfortunately, at times obstacles for which there is no need arise in this great work. Over the past few days an extremely strained situation has come about in the kray as regards the availability of rolling stock. To put it frankly, due to an absence of rail cars the dispatching of grain, sugar beets and potatoes is being held up. We have asked the Ministry of Railways to solve this problem as speedily as possible and to supply us with cars."

DOUBLE-THRESHING METHOD USED ON KUBAN RICE FARMS

LD271026 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Sep 79 LD

[Summary] Our Krasnodar correspondent Valentin Tarasov reports about rice harvesting in the Kuban, where the USSR's largest rice crop is grown. The harvest has to be brought in fast and without losses on 177,000 hectares while the weather is hot and sunny. The work is being done in part by 8,000 reaping machines and combine harvesters, 6,000 motor vehicles and many other machines.

The harvest is larger than last year, and the rice-growers hope to reap at least 900,000 tons of it. The second threshing of swathes is now taking place everywhere, in all kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The point is that the combine harvester is unable to let a great mass through the drum in one pass and part of the unthreshed rice remains among the straw. The second threshing makes it possible to gather an additional 3-5 quintals per hectares.

Harvesting progresses simultaneously with other operations; the plantations are cleared of straw, the soil is plowed, and organic fertilizers are spread.

DIFFICULTIES NOTED IN RICE GROWING IN KALMYKSKAYA ASSR

LD302352 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2115 GMT 30 Sep 79 LD

[Summary] Rice is being now widely grown in Kalmykskaya ASSR. During the first 3 years of the current 5-year plan, the republic's farms produced almost 100,000 tons of rice. A further expansion of rice growing is envisioned in land improvement schemes for the Sarpinskaya Nizmennost area, where rice plantations will eventually occupy more than 120,000 hectares. However, although the republic's rice farms have been in existence for only a few years, many of the plantations have lost their original fertility. Annual yields have been diminishing. This year, for instance, there was a shortage of water for the paddies because of an interministry conflict--the pumping stations belonged to the republican Ministry of Land Improvement and Water Economy, while the sovkhozes come under the Agriculture Ministry. Furthermore, paddies are not being drained and are thus becoming prematurely saline and boggy. The problem of rice farming in Kalmykskaya ASSR is a serious one.

SHEVARDNADZE ATTENDS MEETING ON FRUIT, POTATO HARVEST

LD281157 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 8 Sep 79 p 1 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "Exemplary Organization for the Harvesting Campaign in the Orchards and Vegetable Plantations"]

[Excerpts] A conference has been held at the Georgian CP Central Committee on the question of the timely harvesting and the procurement, processing and winter storage of soft fruit, citrus fruit and potatoes.

Leading workers of the Georgian CP Central Committee, the Georgian Council of Ministers, ministries and departments and the party and agricultural organs of a number of rayons of the republic and of the Abkhazskaya and Adzharskaya ASSRS took part in the conference.

N.A. Chitanava, first deputy chairman of the Georgian Council of Ministers; D.I. Patiashvili, secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee; and Z.A. Pataridize, chairman of the Georgian Council of Ministers, spoke at the conference.

E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, summed up the conference results.